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Chase the wind
Page 22

Poverty in Paradise:
Travels in the Philippines
Pages 12-13

Avoiding cougars of both kinds for 58 years.

MARTLET

Thursday, September 15, 2005 | The University of Victoria's Independent Newspaper | www.martlet.ca | Volume 58, Issue 6

RATE YOUR PROFS:
PAGE 5

Professor Ratings

Professor: J. STEELE

Department: LAW

Easiness	1	2	(3)	4	5
Helpfulness	1	2	3	(4)	5
Clarity	1	2	(3)	4	5
Hotness	1	2	3	4	(5)
Overall	1	2	3	4	(5)

Other Comments

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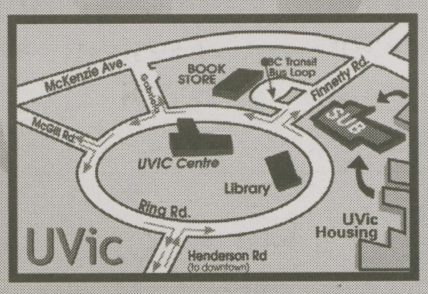

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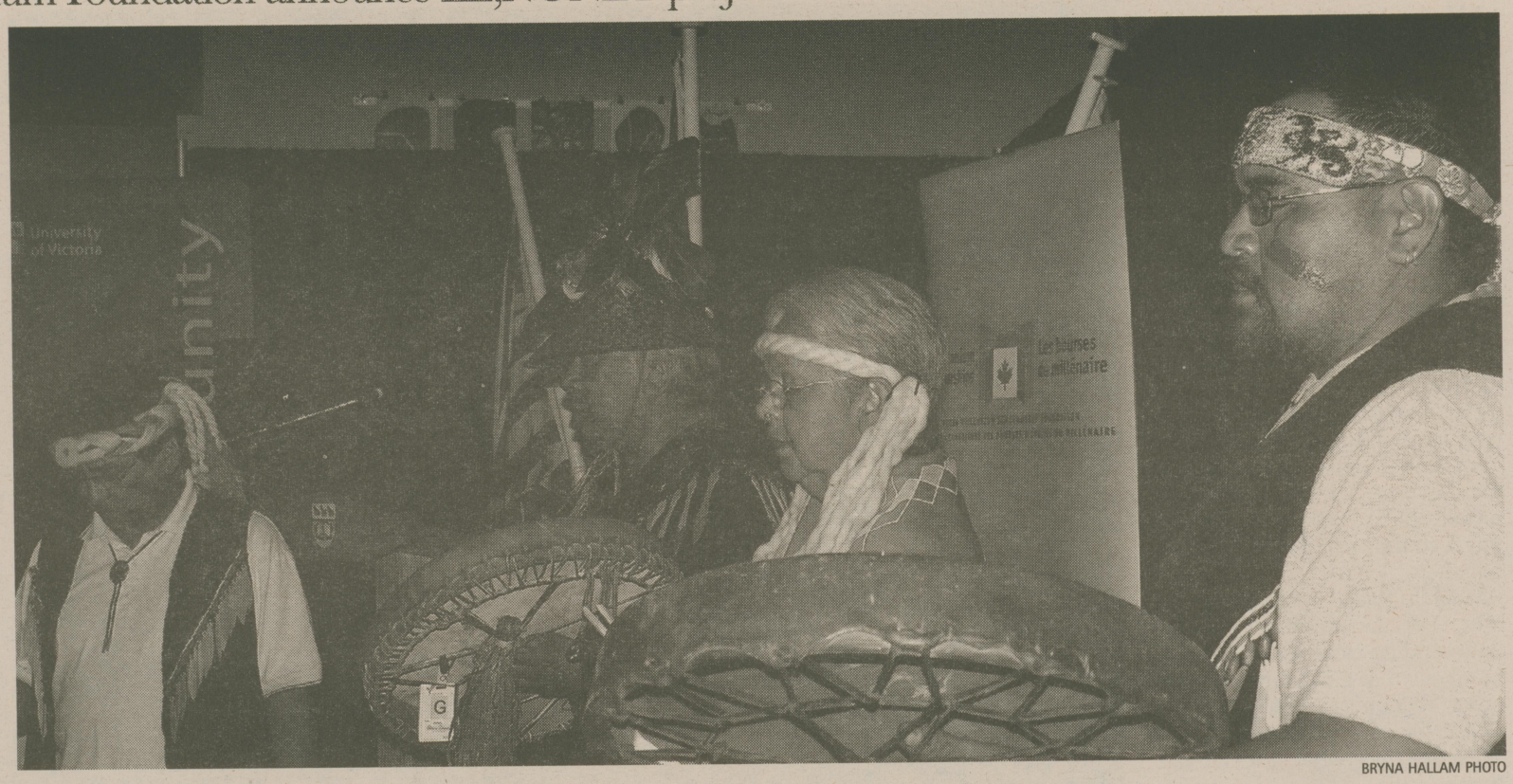
Enhancing the success of aboriginal students

University and Millenium Foundation announce LE,NONET project

by Rachel Reaugh



BRYNA HALLAM PHOTO

UVic aboriginal liaison officer Bill White, second from left, performs with Saanich Traditional Singers at the LE,NONET announcement.

The University of Victoria and the Canadian Millennium Foundation announced the details of a pilot project that will enhance the success of aboriginal students in post-secondary education.

The LE,NONET (pronounced le-non-git) project, the first of its kind in Canada, will provide academic, financial and cultural support to First Nation students at UVic over the next four years.

"Aboriginal students face unique barriers to higher education. This project will work towards breaking down those barriers," said Norman Riddell, the Millennium Foundation's executive director and CEO.

Key elements of the LE,NONET project include providing non-repayable financial assistance, peer mentoring, research apprenticeships and community internships to aboriginal students.

"This is a wonderful initiative," said UVic professor Lorna Williams. "Instead of just giving people money, the project will give [aboriginal] students valuable experiences through the internship and mentoring programs and will also provide a meaningful place for aboriginal students on campus."

Aboriginal student Sarah Dickie, an integral part of the LE,NONET working group, is optimistic about the peer mentoring aspect of the project.

"I come from a very small community," she said. "When I came to school in Victoria, I was terrified. I didn't know anybody. I was lost. I didn't know how to work the buses and I didn't know where anything was on campus. I think this project and its programs will be beneficial in creating a smoother transition for aboriginal students coming to post secondary."

"This project is going to help up to 150 aboriginal students every single year for the next four years," said Dr. Keith Martin, Liberal member of Parliament for Esquimalt–Juan de Fuca. "What really excites me about the LE,NONET project is the relationship building that will and has happened. It's really about sharing and honoring aboriginal values and knowledge. The research gathered from this experience will be shared with others across the country to benefit many aboriginal and non-aboriginal communities."

Programs in the LE,NONET project will be managed by aboriginal people and will foster a strong sense of community among students and communities.

In addition, aboriginal students involved in these programs will receive training and financial compensation for their work.

Members of the project hope the peer mentoring, community internship and research apprenticeship programs will provide an opportunity for aboriginal students to support one another and become active in aboriginal communities and organizations.

Other UVic programs and initiatives for aboriginal students include the building of a First Peoples House on campus which is intended to create a welcoming environment for aboriginal students that respects their culture and values.

Another initiative is the five-day Aboriginal Student Mini-U Summer Camp, which allows students from grades eight through 11 to get a taste of university life and possible careers that are available with a university education. Students meet aboriginal faculty and attend workshops on a variety of subjects including robotics, computer animation, writing, visual arts and law.

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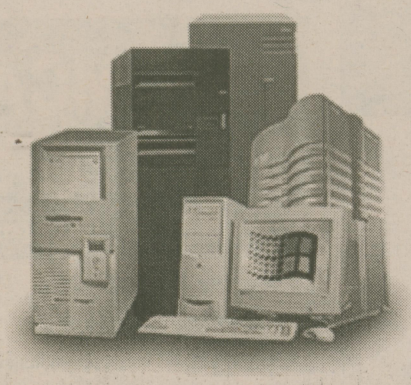

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Students glimpse cougar on campus

Sighting unconfirmed, but officials warn students to be cautious

by Megan Stewart

Several students reported a close brush with nature last week when they sighted a cougar on campus in Mystic Vale, but officials found no evidence that a predatory animal was in the area.

At approximately 7 p.m. on Sept. 7, two female students reported spotting a large, tawny cat while trail running in Mystic Vale, a sprawl of forest covering 4.4 hectares at the southeast edge of campus.

The women called 9-1-1 before arriving at Campus Security Services (CSS) to report the sighting 20 minutes later. Another student contacted CSS at 7:50 p.m. after spotting a cougar near the Engineering buildings.

Saanich Police scouted Mystic Vale after the reported sightings, but found no evidence of a cougar, also known as a mountain lion. In order to confirm a sighting, an RCMP or conservation officer must either see the animal or identify its tracks.

"This was not a confirmed sighting," said Constable John Price of the Saanich Police. "There was no evidence of a cougar in the area, but that is not uncommon given the condition of the ground. It's dry and the cougar is a padded animal and doesn't leave tracks unless it's quite muddy."

Const. Price said the only avenue open to authorities is getting word out that an animal has been sighted in the area. Had it been a confirmed sighting, the trails through Mystic Vale likely would have been closed temporarily.

"There are students . . . who don't realise animals are in the area. There are a number of wooded paths in Saanich that are used by bears and cougars," he said.

PROVIDED PHOTO

Two groups of students reported seeing a cougar in Mystic Vale Sept. 7.

A number of animals, including deer, owls, hawks and rabbits, make UVic and the surrounding municipalities of Oak Bay and Saanich their home. Cougars, on the other hand, are temporary guests in the residential areas, if they visit at all, said conservation officer Peter Pauwels.

"UVic is not big enough for a cougar," said Pauwels, noting that the territorial felines prefer multiple square kilometres of land to roam and hunt.

"UVic is just not an area where a cougar will feel comfortable," he said. "There are too many dogs, too many cars, too many people. Any cougar that makes its way [to campus] is going to be getting out in pretty short order."

Tom Downie, assistant director of CSS, said he can't remember the last time a cougar sighting was confirmed at UVic. "People will sometimes see a deer," said Downie.

"There are animals, in addition to the rabbits, like deer, hawks and owls. It's not unheard of to see a hawk or an owl sweep down and swoop off with a bunny. We operate in a park; we really do."

QUICK FACTS ABOUT COUGARS

A cougar in Mystic Vale

Cougars, Canada's largest cat, are most active at dawn and dusk, but they will roam and hunt throughout the day and during all seasons.

During the late spring and early summer, one- to two-year-old cougars become independent of their mothers and search for unoccupied territory, which officials say may explain the solitary cat sighted on campus.

Face to face

If you come across a cougar in the bush or on public trails, know that they can be unpredictable and, while they avoid confrontation, should not be approached. Cougars feeding on a kill could be dangerous.

- Always give a cougar an avenue of escape and try not to block narrow paths
- Stay calm and talk to the cougar in a confident voice
- Pick all children off the ground immediately as they frighten easily and their rapid movements and high-pitched voice could provoke an attack
- Do not run. Try to back away slowly since sudden movements or flight can trigger an instant attack
- Do not turn your back on a cougar. Face the animal, remain upright and do all you can to enlarge your image, including waving branches or poles in the air.

Compiled with sources from the Saanich Police

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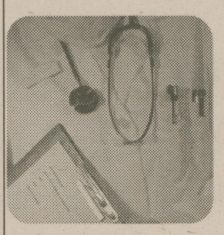

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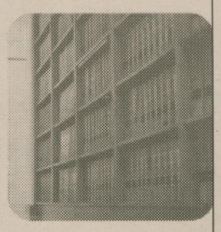

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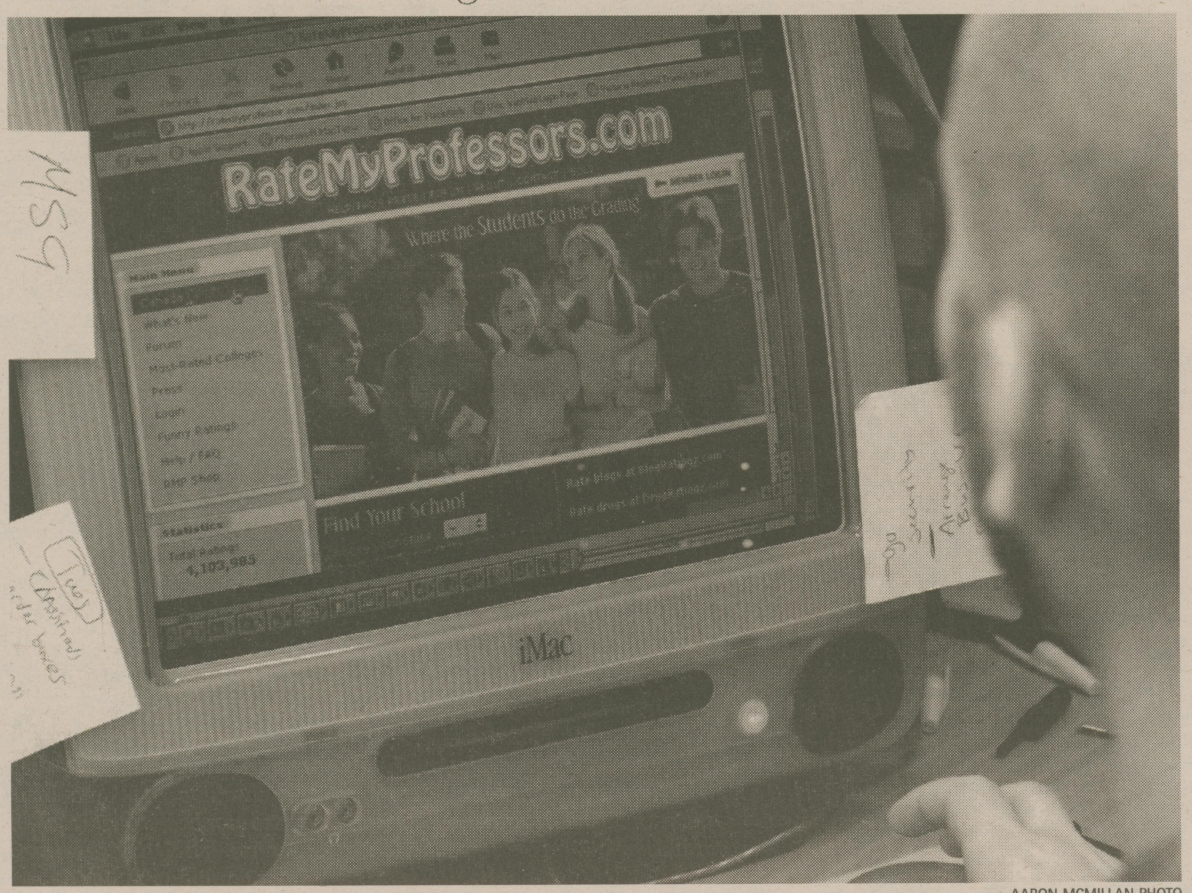
How good is your new prof?

Website gives students a chance to do the marking

by Tim Lindsey



AARON MCMILLAN PHOTO

RateMyProfessors.com has ratings of more than 600,000 professors across Canada and the U.S.

Students questioning their new instructors' competence, or wanting to see whether their professor is deemed "hot" or not, have few resources besides word of mouth.

Enter RateMyProfessors.com, a website where students can share opinions about professors.

"Best lecturer ever. Does A LOT with the course material," posts one student of UVic Political Science professor Matt James, whose Overall Quality rating is 4.5 out of five, based on 45 anonymous ratings. "Just be warned, he's a hard marker. Really need to know your stuff and he'll tear apart term papers. You'll learn a lot and enjoy his class, but may not get the greatest mark."

"Oh my goodness, SO BORING! Had to stab my hand with my pen to keep awake," remarks another student on a UVic professor who does not fare so well as James. "Easy marker, but the worst $400 I ever spent. I don't think I learned a single thing! Not worth the time or money."

Over 1,300 UVic professors have together received 18,296 ratings by anonymous students who grade them on a scale of one to five with respect to clarity, helpfulness and easiness. Each professor then gets an "Overall Quality" rating based on his or her average combined scores for clarity and helpfulness, but not easiness. The website also allows students to post comments about professors' teaching styles.

All comments are reviewed to make sure they conform to the website's guidelines, which prohibit, for example, comments that are racist, sexist, homophobic, or which criticize a professor's physical appearance.

RateMyProfessors.com is host to almost four million ratings of over 600,000 professors in 5,124 post-secondary academic institutions across the U.S. and Canada. To see more than the 10 most recent comments on a professor, individuals must pay a membership fee.

A "school-wide" membership is also available, making all comments on professors at a particular university viewable.

"I would not endorse the site in terms of purchasing a school-wide membership," said UVic Student's Society (UVSS) Chairperson Penny Beames. Beames says RateMyProfessors.Com has some value as a tool for students to share their honest opinions with each other, but worries the website lacks appropriate mediation.

"It's more like an internet chat room," said UVSS Director of Academics Loren Husband. She says the comments can be quite entertaining sometimes, but agrees with Beames that some comments may be inappropriate. "It's going to depend on your personal experience with the professor. You could get a bad mark and really not like the professor because of it."

With respect to the "easiness" rating, the website operators admit it is controversial. "Although we do not necessarily condone it, it is certainly true that many students decide what class to take based on the difficulty of the teacher," reads the site.

Critics of the website argue that those who choose to enter a rating are not really representative of students and will tend to have strong opinions, possibly wanting to "get back" at a professor.

Others object to the public nature of the ratings, which allows anyone with access to the Internet to view them, including family, friends, colleagues or university administrators.

Also, because the ratings are anonymous, there is no way to ensure that raters have actually been students in the professors' classes. Determined individuals can overcome the technical barriers and post multiple times.

RateMyProfessors.com founder John Swapceinski says the website is not simply an outlet for insulting professors, saying that over 65 per cent of ratings are actually positive. A statement on the website reads, "We are just common, ordinary people who believe that students are the CUSTOMERS of professors—and we believe they absolutely have a right to voice their opinions."

But Swapceinski admits the ratings are not representative samples, and that they tend to be more useful the higher the number of raters.

While the UVSS does not officially endorse the website, Beames notes that nothing is stopping students from using it.

"The technology and the Internet are there. If students want to, they can use the site."

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BRYNA HALLAM PHOTO

UVic community garden lets students try their hand at growing their own vegetables.

Looking for local alternatives

VIPIRG offers market, workshops on food security issues

by Heather Bowness

It's hard to look at shiny, waxy apples, unblemished bananas, and deep-red peppers, all lined up like a traffic light, and not wonder what is keeping them so perfect.

Thankfully, the Vancouver Island Public Interest Research Group (VIPIRG) is sponsoring a farmer's market at the Student Union Building at UVic on Sept. 20. The market is aimed at providing access to local produce for students and creating awareness of larger issues, such as food security.

Greg Awai, the Executive Director of VIPIRG, explains that food security is the ability to have access to affordable, nutritious, culturally acceptable food that is not harmful to the environment.

He adds, however, that most people don't have access to that basic principle. By buying food from far away that is chemically and genetically modified, sprayed with destructive chemicals, shipped and eventually placed in the grocery store, you are helping neither the environment nor your own health.

Part of VIPIRG's objective is to provide skills workshops, such as canning, container gardening, and worm composting. This raises awareness of where your food comes from. "Then, perhaps, you'll produce your own food," Awai said, "so you don't have to rely on huge corporations [for fresh fruit and vegetables]."

Annalisa Robertson, UVic Garden Committee's volunteer coordinator, agrees with Awai, saying that it is important to support local growers.

If you want to take it a step further, you can grow your own vegetables. The UVic Garden Committee rents garden plots and is open to all students.

"Right now students only hear of our gardens by word of mouth, but we have a lot of support from the university," said Robertson, noting that every spring there's a waiting list for the gardens. The plots are available for a nominal fee of $30 a year (including a $10 deposit). Email annalisa@robertson.cc for more information.

The VIPIRG office in the SUB also provides an alternative resource library to help you get started with your own garden.

On Sept. 21 the group is sponsoring a canning workshop. There is still space available in this workshop. Contact VIPIRG at outreach@vipirg.ca or call 472-5170 for more information.

Other community markets in the area include the James Bay Market (www.jamesbaymarket.com) and the Moss St. Community Market (www.mossstreetmarket.com).

Don't have time to shop? Share Organics delivers organic produce to your door (www.shareorganics.bc.ca).

LifeCycles also provides a food directory of locally grown produce at www.lifecyclesproject.ca.

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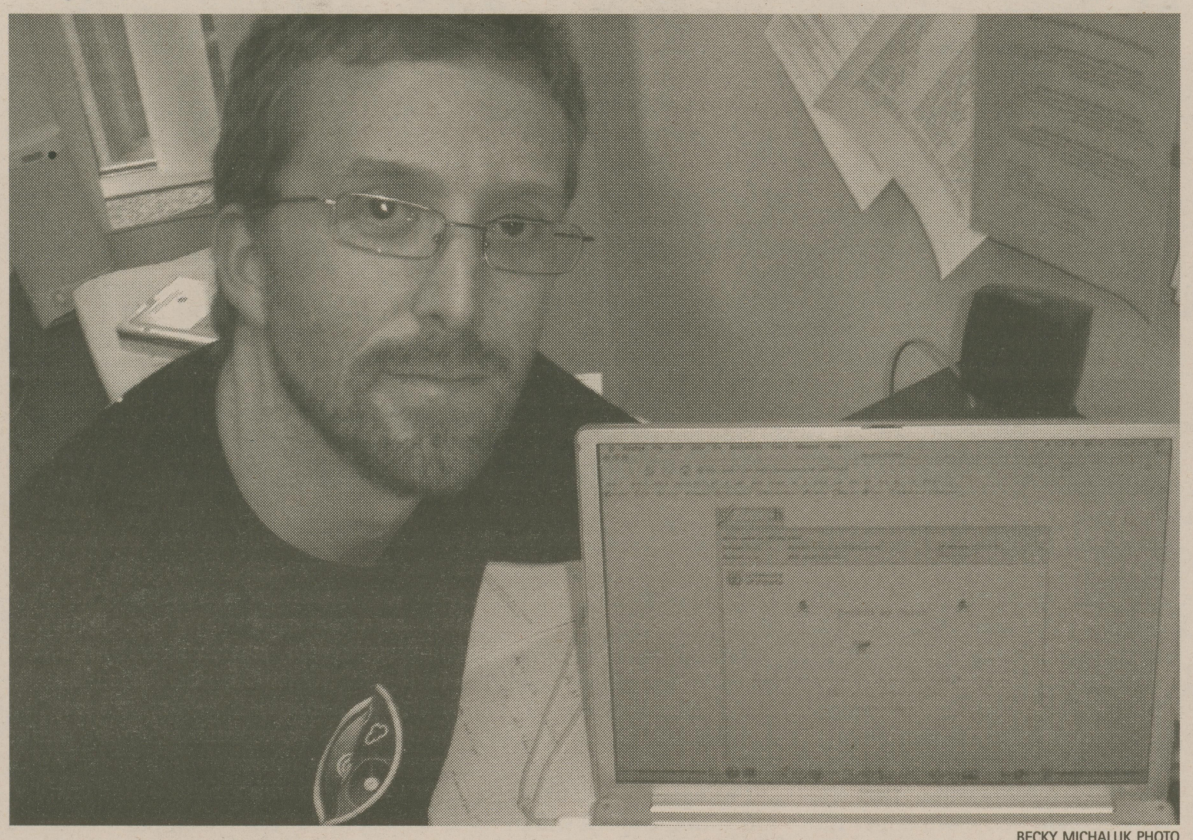
The mystery of the Fine Arts hacker

by Becky Michaluk



BECKY MICHALUK PHOTO

David Broome displays the Fine Arts home page as it was left by hackers on Sept. 1.

Hackers left a message in Spanish after cracking the Fine Arts server three weeks ago.

On Sept. 1, the Fine Arts homepage declared in Spanish, "To be excellent is to exert our freedom and to be responsible for our actions."

It also read "Hacked by Narco" in English and included graphics of a fly and skulls and crossbones.

The violation prompted administration to change all fine arts students' passwords and disable the system for one day. Three days and nights of work by UVic technicians succeeded in restoring the system.

"Preliminary costs [of the incident] are in the $4,000 to $5,000 region," said Morven Wilson, chief information officer in charge of all computer systems at UVic.

The hacker cracked a hole through a program called Web Calendar, a piece of free, public software that was running on the Fine Arts server. However, he or she didn't get very far.

"We saw everything they did," said David Broome, who manages the Fine Arts site and worked on the restoration. "Emails are happy. Personal files are happy."

The Fine Arts server consists mostly of users' email accounts and websites, and software such as file transfer protocol (FTP) programs. All information with students' names or financial information is kept on a central server, which is protected by control lists, intrusion detection systems, firewalls and encrypted passwords.

"The info that we hold, despite the attack on the Fine Arts server, is very secure," said Wilson.

The only possible risk for students would be if they were sending confidential information via email—which no one should do in any email program, Wilson said. As well, if students use their Fine Arts password for another site, then there may be a risk that a hacker could use the password to access that site.

The hack was possible because of something called a "zero-day exploit." This is a situation where a community of "black hat" or malicious hackers (often called "crackers" rather than the respectable term "hackers") will search for vulnerabilities in systems and advertise to each other any holes they create.

A zero-day exploit really represents the time that elapses between the hackers' awareness of a hole and the software company coming up with a patch.

Often, users will only learn about a vulnerability in their software once the software company releases the patch. This is essentially what happened at UVic.

Black hat hackers are known for trying to break into one machine to use that machine to break into others, creating a "daisy chain."

Wilson has seen this happen at the University of Calgary, where he used to work. A site was turned into a "zombie" by hackers from Russia trying to access U.S. energy sites. Basically the "zombie" machine appears to be normal; meanwhile, hackers are operating the computer from another location.

There is a chance that this happened on the Fine Arts server, Wilson said.

The university does not know who did the hack job. Nor does it plan to find out. "There's really no point," said Wilson. "You can follow the trail all over the place." It would also be a very expensive search, he said.

The hack was traced to a web hosting location in the United States, and to locations in Spain, Chile and Brazil.

Most likely, said Wilson, it was done by persons who simply wanted to prove they could.

Wilson is almost positive the hack was not done by a UVic student.

The dean of Computer Science, Jon Muzio, agrees.

Muzio says the Computer Science server is continuously under attack. In fact, the server has been hacked into more than once in the past couple of years.

"Last year during first week of classes someone tried to bring the computer science server down."

Wilson did not think the timing of the two attacks points to someone with a vendetta against UVic.

"My sense is it's just an unhappy set of coincidences," he said.

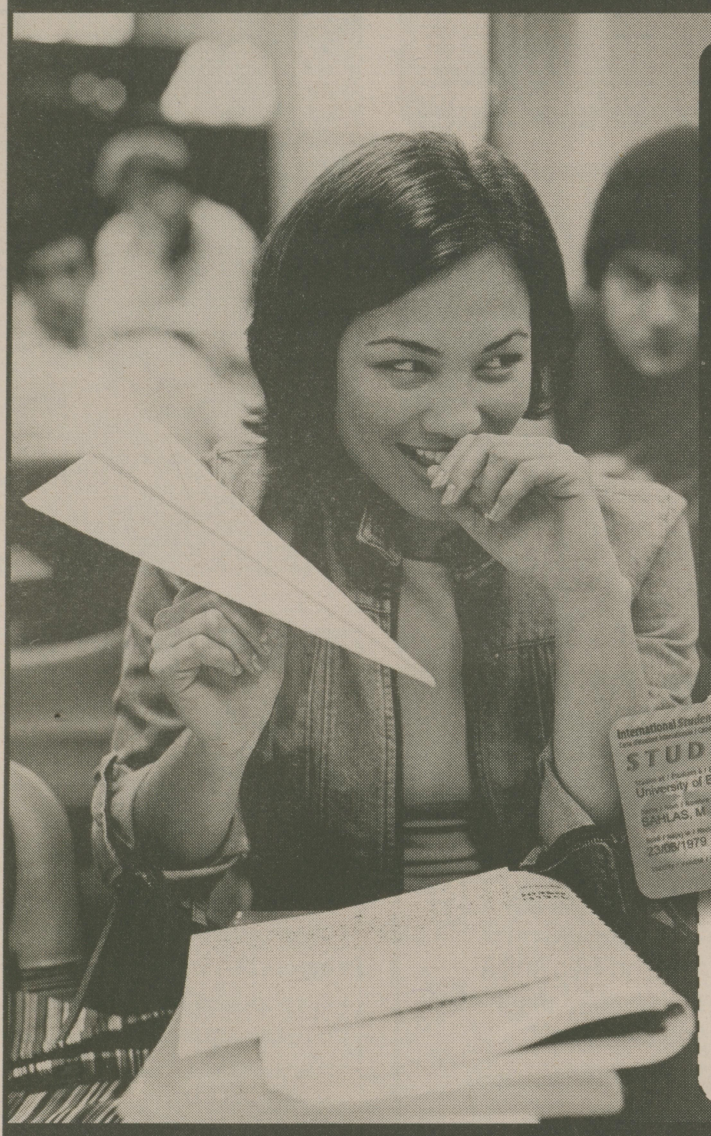
Both Muzio and Wilson said universities are prime targets for hackers because they are open by nature. For example, researchers want access to a lot of diverse sites.

Both also agreed that protection is the best way to deal with potential hackers.

Currently, UVic is in the process of changing its entire computing system, to offer even more security to students.

While the hack was a serious issue, said Muzio, it's also what drives the technology to get better.

CANADA'S STUDENT TRAVEL EXPERTS



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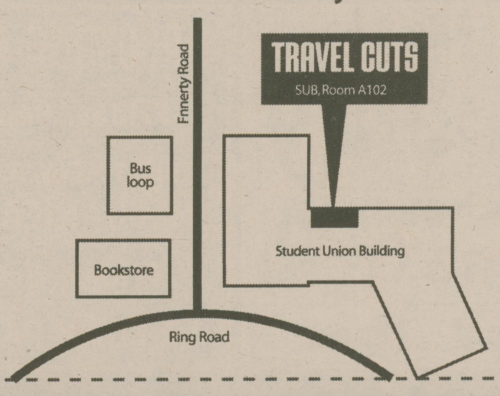

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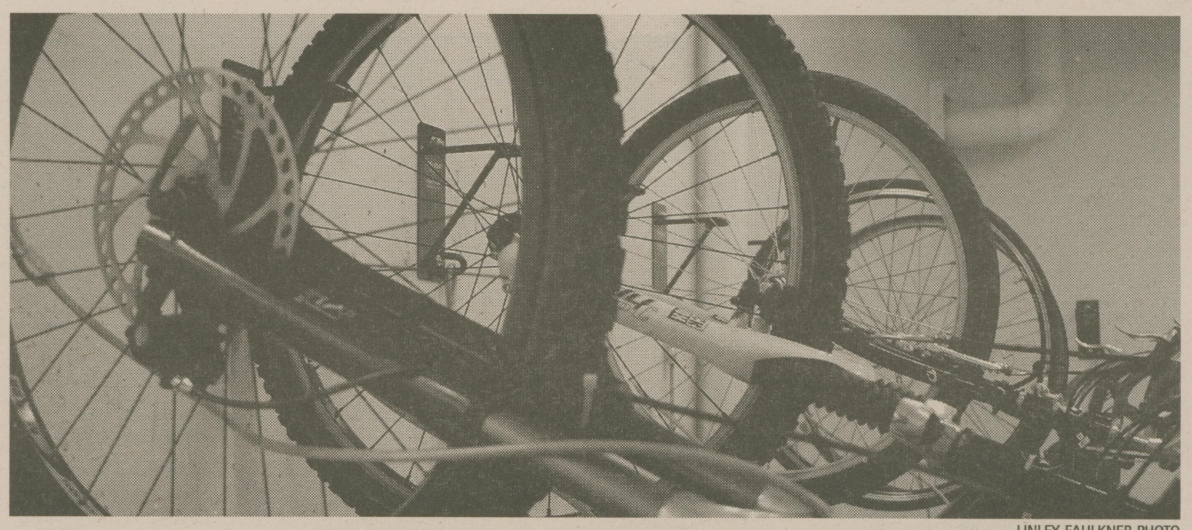
Lock it or lose it

by Emilie Januszewski



LINLEY FAULKNER PHOTO

Keep your bike locked in a secure area—like this storage room in residence.

On a dark and stormy night, a hooded bandit creeps in the shadows and with swift hands steals the shiny, unsecured new bike leaning against the large oak tree.

That's the way bike theft happens in the movies, not in real life, where even locked bikes get nabbed in broad daylight.

Bike theft is a continuous concern on campus, and according to Constable John Price of the Saanich Police, 241 bikes have been stolen in Saanich since January—32 of them from campus.

According to Price, bikes are stolen for a number of reasons. Some are taken for personal use, others for the sales of parts.

Luckily, there are a number of things students can do to deter thieves. Price suggests students get their bikes engraved with their driver's license numbers and recording serial numbers. Campus Security provides this service free of charge.

"Our members check bikes all the time," said Price, "and it is frustrating for our members to have to let someone drive away on a bike that our members know doesn't belong to that person."

In addition, students can follow the advice of Allan Dunlop, chair of UVic's Bicycle User's Committee and the Transportation Demand Management Co-ordinator, and keep bikes locked in a high traffic area.

Dunlop also suggests locking bikes to something solid, like the many bike racks located around campus, and not to someone else's bike.

If using a U-lock, try to fill-up as much of the space within the U as possible. If using cable locks, try to place them so the lock itself is not against anything solid, which it could be hammered against. Cable locks can also be cut quickly and easily, so it is better to invest in a U-lock.

Bike lockers are also available and can also be used for storing extra bike gear. Waitlists are currently being taken at the SUB info booth.

According to UVic's 2004 Campus Traffic Survey, nearly 3,300 bicycle trips—or six per cent of all trips—are made onto or off campus each day. Even more trips are made within campus.

If you do decide to bike to campus, the university offers many services to bikers. Shower and change facilities are located in the McKinnon and Ian H. Stewart gyms and can be accessed with a student card. Compressed air is available outside the Elliot building opposite the McPherson Library bike shelters.

In the works right now is a self-serve bicycle maintenance and repair facility. This will double as a venue for teaching bicycle repair workshops and promoting cycling to and around UVic. The target for this venue is late Fall 2005.

For more information, check out the UVic Bicycle User's Committee website at web.uvic.ca/uvbikes/index.html or the bike info kiosk in the University Centre.

TIPS ON KEEPING YOUR BIKE SAFE

Keep your bike locked up at all times
Even if you're just running into your lover's apartment for a quickie. It takes less than that for someone to ride away with your bike. This applies to students living in residence also.

Use a good lock
Although it's tempting to buy a cheap chain lock or cable lock, they are not the best. Go for a heavy duty U-lock instead. Allan Dunlop, Transportation Demand Management Co-ordinator and chair of the UVic Bicycle User's Committee suggests cross-locking (connecting two locks together).

Avoid quick release wheels
And if you feel they're necessary, release them and lock them together along with your frame. All removable components should be secured, suggests Dunlop, including seat posts and lights.

Nobody wants an ugly bike
This includes thieves. Personalize your bike with stickers, paint, etc. The more work that's involved for the thief, the safer your bike will be.

Don't allow yourself or others to be victims
Avoid buying stolen bikes by buying at reputable shops. Also, keep an eye out around bike racks and report anything suspicious to Campus Security.

Native Students Union

Native Students Union

Eech-aul-ih-all (greetings)

Semi-Annual General Meeting

Thursday, Sept 29, 2005
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
SUB B025

Agenda includes
-Elections for NSU Council
-Visioning for upcoming year

Please come out and support your NSU!
We want and need some new faces, ideas, and help.

Hay c qa Siem (Thank you)

For more information, contact Joe Kruger at the NSU office
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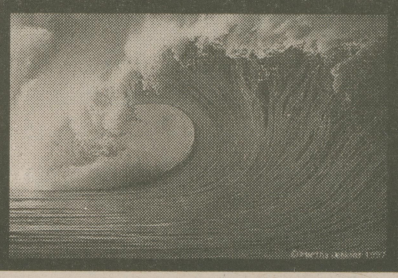

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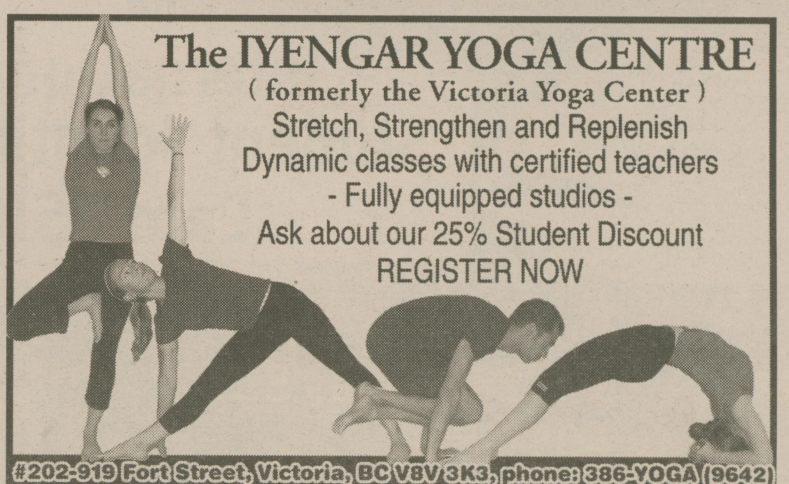

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Campus covered by wireless network

by Edward Pullman

Wi-fi, or wireless Internet, has come to the University of Victoria.

Wi-fi is the ability to access a network, and the Internet, without all the wiring and cables normally involved.

Setting up a wireless connection at the university is a painless process, requiring only a wireless laptop (or other wireless device), a NetLink ID and a web browser.

Since fall 2004, Network Services has been working to expand wireless coverage to all of the campus. Now only a few areas around campus, including Saunders building, Campus Security, Health Services and the Alumni House, are without Wi-fi coverage.

So what called for the wireless upgrade? As David Shea explains, "Wireless coverage is getting easier and cheaper to set up and maintain. It's also a great benefit to have the ability to access the Internet anywhere on campus."

"Yes, I'll use the wireless internet coverage for sure," said student Duncan Penfold-Brown. "It's so much easier than carrying a cable around and having to find somewhere to plug it in."

Indeed, students now have the ability to go to their history class in Cornett building and access reading assignments posted on WebCT, or send their professor a computer science assignment just before class.

"I think it's great," said Vanessa Connolly. "It's really convenient. The library and computer labs are usually busy, and it's nice to work on my own laptop."

The network requires a NetLink ID and password, meaning it cannot be accessed by just anyone who has wireless capability. People attempting to use the wireless access for peer-to-peer programs such as Limewire or BitTorent, will also have little success.

LINLEY FAULKNER PHOTO

Wireless coverage on campus now includes most buildings.

"We have a packet shaper that monitors the packets [data] coming through certain ports that peer-to-peer programs run on," said Shea. "If the packets are coming from these certain ports, it will throttle the bandwidth, reducing the transfer speed significantly."

While wireless coverage on campus is certainly convenient for everyone who has access to it, it probably won't cause any major changes in teaching methods.

The larger problem of technology-classroom integration is best summed up by professor Allison Barnes: "It [the technology] is changing so fast, it's hard to keep up with it, but it's got to happen. You've got to figure out what works in the class. It has to be properly integrated in the pedagogy."

Why are they watching you?

Closed circuit television keeps an eye on students around campus

by Micah Luxen

Throughout Canada, closed circuit television cameras (CCTV) record citizens at work, study and play.

But despite the crimes they are purported to discourage, critics argue that the cameras are often ineffective.

"When it comes to violent crime, it has no effect atall," said UVic sociologist Dr. Sean Hier.

"We do not have any statistics to indicate that CCTV deters crime," agreed Tom Downie, assistant director of Campus Security Services. "However, it does improve our response time when incidents occur."

Presently, cameras are located in the campus bookstore, various computer labs, and the University Centre parkade, to name a few surveyed areas. Anywhere a cameras is located, a sign will be posted that indicates the area is under surveillance.

"The cameras tend to be in places where there is a concern about security with vulnerable equipment or services," said Lara Wilson, Associate Archivist for Records, Access and Privacy.

The purpose of the cameras is to improve personal safety on campus by deterring people from committing crimes, and increasing the likelihood of identifying people who may commit them, states the UVic policy on television surveillance.

One of the major criticisms of CCTV has been that video recordings are an invasion of personal privacy. However, UVic's policy on CCTV states that any non-criminal information collected on campus by CCTV is confidential and will be destroyed two weeks after it's collected.

"Your image is personal information, so access and disclosure to that would be under very limited circumstances," said Wilson.

Emily Pariseau, a fourth year psychology student, says that she wouldn't think of the cameras as an invasion of any person. "Most of the cameras are in public places anyway so they're not invading privacy."

A study out of the University of Wales College of Medicine reported in the *Journal of Accident and Emergency Medicine* that crime isn't reduced at all by video surveillance, but simply shifts out of sight of the cameras.

Another criticism of CCTV is that while the presence of cameras may deter small acts of civil disobedience, unless police or security forces are physically present, criminal acts would continue, regardless of the cameras.

Vancouver city council rejected a proposal to install 23 cameras in May, after a British report concluded the cameras do not prevent crime. Regardless of the role of CCTV during the London bombings, there aren't any immediate plans to retract the Vancouver decision, says Vancouver Constable Tim Fanning.

However, Fanning goes on to argue that "[video surveillance] is obviously very useful in solving crimes because as we all know, there are cameras everywhere."

For the most part, the crime-capturing recorders are not installed by police, but are controlled by private businesses or corporations. "They turn the tapes over to us or we get a warrant."

The same is true for Victoria, where the police have no cameras of their own and depend solely on private cameras for information.

"We've been trying to install video surveillance forever but it's a cost issue," said Victoria Constable Brent Burger. "We were trying especially to work with the nightclubs in order to protect vehicles and stores, usually from the bar patrons leaving for the night."

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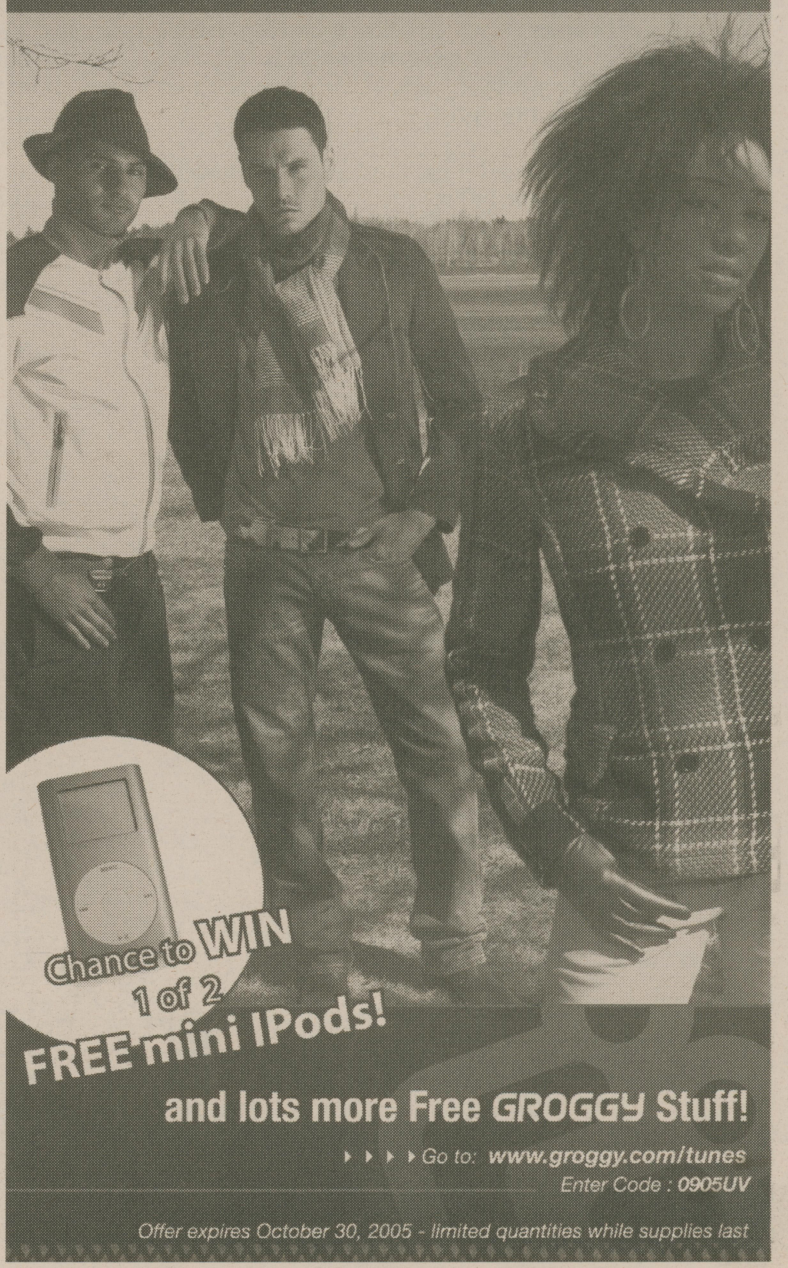

Editorial

Bullshit! It's everywhere

Bullshit is everywhere.

Take former U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) director Mike Brown as an example.

First he didn't know "factually" about the people stranded in the New Orleans Convention Centre until days after the rest of us—thanks to the modern-day wonders of television and the Internet—knew.

Then it turns out that he may have fudged his resume a little bit. Under management experience, he lists "head of the International Arabian Horse Association"—a job he was forced to resign from due to apparent mismanagement.

Under "emergency preparedness experience" there was, well, nothing. Looking back, it may have been a mistake for President Bush to appoint him based on those credentials.

Know what the real problem is here? It's bullshit. Dirty, smelly, sticks-to-your-shoes bullshit.

And not just because Brown seems to have been full of it. The fact that he could be appointed, without any apparent qualifications or review, reeks as well.

But it's not just Brown.

From the recorded voice cooing, "Your call is important to us," to the average Joe who pads his resume—we live in a society of lies.

Take Enron as an example. Those guys fudged numbers, hid the truth, outright lied to investors and employees, you name it—and were pretty brazen about it too. And who suffered at the end of it all? Not them.

That's the worst of it, of course. Everyone else winds up covered in shit, while the liars, er, exaggerators, often end up walking away.

And don't think little ol' UVic is immune to bullshit.

Rumours of faculty having mail-order diplomas have occasionally circulated around campus.

Vivek Sharma, former manager of the Student Union Building, pleaded guilty in 2001 of fraud, after hundreds of thousands of dollars went missing.

And admit it, who out there hasn't exaggerated on their resume? Changed a couple science courses to a "background in biology?" Changed "garbage collector" to "sanitation expert?"

What about our personal lives? Ever lied to impress a date? Seems okay, but when does it cross the line? When you lie about volunteering at the food bank, or when you lie about having had an STD test recently?

Wouldn't it be nice if we didn't have to constantly wonder if everything we hear is true or not?

When it comes right down to it, mom and dad were right: Lying stinks.

So cut the crap already.

Editorial topics are decided at weekly editorial meetings and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of all staff members.

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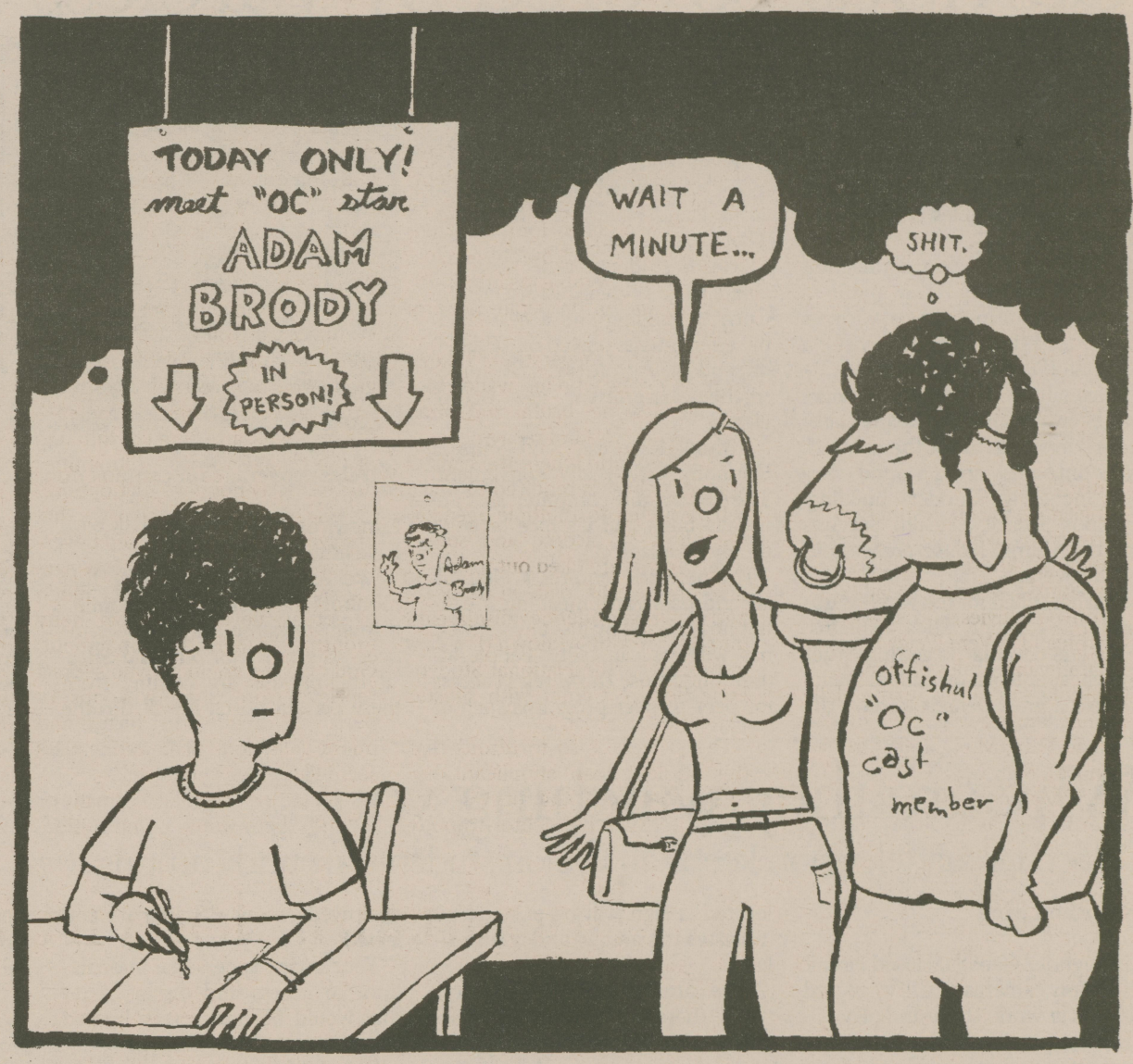
EDITORIAL CARTOON | BULLSHIT



ANTHONY FRATTAROLI GRAPHIC

LETTERS

Tuition increase necessary

Dear Editor:

Boo hoo!

Tuition fees have gone up $85.50! Accounting for inflation, that's a whopping ZERO dollars! Break out the placards and whiny slogans, the bleeding hearts will show us the way to the legislature!

The crotches with their pockets turned out ("Tuition fee increase smaller this year," Sept. 8) are gonna have a field day!

While it is an understatement to say that there is an extreme left wing bias among Martlet contributors, it's just irresponsible to constantly complain about tuition fees. They are what they are, and they are still one of the best bargains going. Imagine being able to double your lifetime earning potential with a four-year, $25,000 investment!

The benefits that the higher fees have brought us, such as new residences and buildings, up to date computers, and reduced wait lists are apparent every day. Do these in themselves not improve accessibility to higher education? Eliminating the tuition freeze has allowed the university to provide us with the level of service necessary for a top academic institution.

I would hate to imagine what my experience would be if UVic was still scrimping by on 1994 dollars.

-Jordan Dilba

Turpin worth every penny

Dear Editor:

In a recent editorial you stated that you don't know what a university president does.

How about doing some investigative journalism to find out, and explore why Dave Turpin is widely preceived as doing a terrific job as UVic's president?

I've heard nothing but praise for President Turpin from my fellow faculty members, and he deserves credit for a number of initiatives that have enhanced the qulity of UVic students' educational experience (see http://web.uvic.ca/president).

Sure, I envy his salary, but I think he's worth every penny of it.

Yours sincerely,

-Anonymous
(for the obvious reason)

Just an opinioned question

Dear Editor:

Is it possible that England's Stonehenge was our ancestors' way of trying to map the world?

I've heard possibilities that it might be some sort of calender but from looking at a few pictures my theory is that the inner higher stones are representing the arctic circle and the outer lower stones represent the Tropic of Cancer and at one point in time the horizontal stones on top might have represented land masses.

-Murray Shaw

The CIA knows squat

To the Martlet

Re: Shannon Elliott's "Terrorist Threat . . ." (Sept. 8)

The gates at Fisherman's Wharf are there to impede people with expensive drug habits from stealing equipment off boats moored there, and not because of any other threat.

If you want to check out the lack of security at Ogden Point cruise ship docks, or those of the M.V. Coho or Victoria Clipper, you could conclude that Victoria is not on the frontline, even though Ahmed Ressam did come through here with his deadly cargo just before New Years' 2000.

The entire war on terror is a joke in any event. No one has been looking bin Laden or Zawahiri since the summer of 2000 when U.S. special forces were withdrawn from Afghanistan for another misadventure in Iraq.

I prefer to believe Pakistan intelligence when they reported bin Laden died of renal failure three years ago.

The CIA refuses to believe bin Laden suffered from serious kidney disease when that was reported five or more years ago. The CIA knows squat.

The fact they have not been able to find Taliban leader Muhammed Omar, or bin Laden's Egyptian physician sidekick, shows incompetent the CIA is.

-Jan Daniël Horn

Write for the Martlet
Get Your opinions off your chest

SUB B011
edit@martlet.ca

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The University of Victoria's Independent Newspaper

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Martlet is published every Thursday.

Student loan system in need of reform

Income-contingent financing would simplify bewildering, brutal and Kafkaesque system

by Patrick Szpak

Students cashing their Canada student loan documents this September should do so with a sense of trepidation and fear, for the current system is an unjust byzantine clusterfuck, an embarrassment to Canada, and in desperate need of reform.

This is no exaggeration. Take it from someone who has waded into the bewildering, brutal and often Kafkaesque world of repayment.

This is a world where the hapless student debtor is required to make set payments to multiple agencies regardless of income and status, where forms are filled out in sets of nine phone calls made in triplicate and correspondence disappears into the black hole known (I'm sure ironically) as the National Student Loan Service Center with sinister regularity.

The process is so torturous that this student loan supplicant became convinced that it was designed to force the debtor to pony up the dough no matter the consequences, be they eviction or starvation, if only to be spared dealing with the organs of Canada Student Loans as quickly as possible.

Of course this is all avoidable—simply write a sheaf of post-dated cheques to Student Loans and forget about it, you'll never hear from them and all will be well. But this scenario is only available to those graduating to careers as investment bankers or real-estate developers—the rest of us, and here I'm thinking of the poor fools with humanities degrees, may not have that option.

Some of us may choose paths that involve periods of prolonged poverty, say as volunteers, or at low paying internships that pay just enough to get by, never mind that hefty monthly student loan payment. God help the graduate who seeks a reprieve from Student Loans to pursue a dream—the forms and phone calls alone make eating glass seem like a nice light snack.

In an ideal world (like Germany or Ireland) there would be no tuition, but this does not seem to be an option given the political culture of our sphincter-clenching leaders. However, better alternatives than the current nightmare exist.

An Ontario report produced by the Rae Advisory Panel reviewing post-secondary education recommended, among other things, that student loans be repaid though the tax system as a percentage of the student's income after graduation.

What this means is that students would make repayments as a percentage of their earnings (usually 10 per cent) after a set cutoff point (known as a repayment threshold).

Low-income students would pay a far more manageable amount, while students still locked in poverty would not pay until their incomes could bare it. High-income earners would of course make larger payments and pay their loans off earlier.

This system is known as income-contingent financing and has been in use in New Zealand, Australia and the U.K. for years and is generally viewed as being less costly—since repayment is integrated into the tax system, doing away with the expensive bureaucracy set up to keep tabs on student loans—and fairer than Canada's snarled system.

Using New Zealand's formula, a student earning $24,000 would have to make an annual payment of $744, regardless of loan size. Those making less than $16,000 would be excused repayment until their income increased.

Compare this to the typical $3,600 yearly payment on an average $30,000 Canada Student Loan, regardless of earnings, and the fairness of the income-contingent system becomes self-evident. Combine this with the savings from rationalizing Canada's labyrinthine loan system, and switching to the new system becomes a no-brainer.

Oh, and since it would be part of Canada's efficient tax system, there would be fewer cryptic forms, a couple less loan agencies, and, most importantly, much less fear, angst and trepidation.

Techno-lusting for virtual reality

I am the protagonist in real life—I should be the protagonist of virtual stories as well

by Clara Evans

In the mid-eighties, William Gibson, the sci-fi author who coined the term "cyberspace," had me dreaming of a future where a virtual reality mechanism would make "me" the heroine of every possible virtual scenario. I am, of course, the protagonist in my real life— I should be the protagonist of virtual stories as well.

So, for the past 20 years, I've been waiting patiently to walk sans spacesuit on the surface of the moon, shield myself from dragons' fire in Middle Earth, and have a kinky ménage-a-trois with Julius Caesar and Joan of Arc atop a pile of rose petals—but still there is no virtual reality machine in my possession.

Instead, like some of you, the entertainment cabinet in my living room has a mere videogame console sitting on a shelf and, like everybody else, there's a mind-numbing television to distract me from the memory of the drearier aspects of my day.

Why am I a proponent of virtual reality technology? Is it because it will be the ultimate form of personal communication? Because it will undoubtedly be a valuable tool in classrooms? Or because it will be the great social leveler for people of all cultures and socio-economic statuses (assuming it would eventually become affordable to the masses)?

Well, although the above conceivable uses of virtual reality would all seemingly benefit us human beings, I'm banking on virtual reality to end the cult of fame and personality that has brainwashed us into caring about who becomes America's next top model and how much bling rappers wear around their neck. In short, I'm tired of us measuring our progressing life story against someone else.

Our individual and group identities are merely composites of the stories we tell ourselves or those others have told us. Stories assert control over our lives, influencing which ideals we choose to attain and how we treat one another. So, when we read, listen to gossip, watch movies or TV, we're all just waiting to hear a better story. It's in our nature to want to explore what we can't always experience in the material world. That's the reason the word "entertainment" exists.

In a fully immersive virtual reality we'd be the creator of our own story, free to decide what goals and ideals we wish to value, free to let our imaginations write plots that are not restricted to the laws of someone else's story.

Sure, a world with virtual reality will also be driven by commercialism and produce generations of techno-addicts and sociopaths. And the military will find plenty of ways to use it to kill people, but we're still just humans—obviously we'll use it for some self-destructive purposes.

In all probability, if the *Matrix* movies have taught us nothing else, we'll become nothing but programmed drones in the governmentally controlled hive, which, of course, will eventually be overthrown by our artificially intelligent robot slaves. But, for those of you who choose to swallow the red pill that jars you back to reality—don't try to destroy the mechanized overlords and fuck it up for the rest of us.

Sadly, according to virtual reality expert Ray Kurzweil, if computing power continues to follow Moore's Law and doubles approximately every 18 months, it won't be until 2037 that computers powerful enough to run immersive VR programs will be in our own homes.

Sure, it could be sooner. Advances in nanotechnology and quantum computing (where computers mimic the human brain's processes) could make a true virtual reality product available to the consumer much earlier, but I wouldn't burn your books and baseball bat yet.

on the spot

THIS ISSUE'S QUESTION:

What's the best bullshit you've ever told?

BY SETH COOPER PHOTOS BY STEVE MASUCH

Janna Stecyk
Geography/Environmental studies

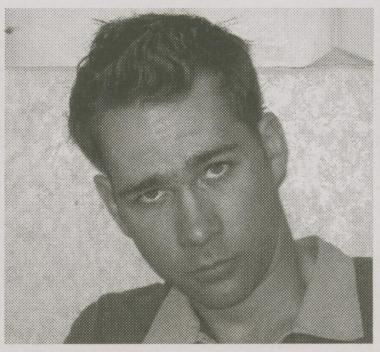
JS: I told my parents I was going to play soccer and I took off to the States with some friends.

Dana L
Psychology

DL: I was with my friend and we went to see this girl we didn't like at a beauty pageant. We got lost, went through a door that led to the stage, and wound up on stage during the beauty pageant and we couldn't get out of it.

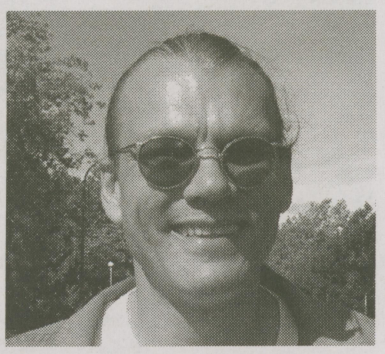
SC: Did you win?

DL: No, I wasn't wearing a gown or anything. But the mean girl lost.



Drew Williams
Writing

CH: There was the time that I convinced all my friends that I had a girlfriend in ninth grade. That went on for a couple of weeks. She went to a different school. We would go out to see *Aladdin* at the movie theatres. Her name was Kelly, In truth she was a girl who was in my Boy Scout troupe who I had a crush on and I wanted to date but I didn't have the balls to so I just told all my friends I was.



Ted Smith
Pot Activist

TS: This should be easy for me. Ted, the old English word, means to lightly spread manure on your lawn in order to fertilize.

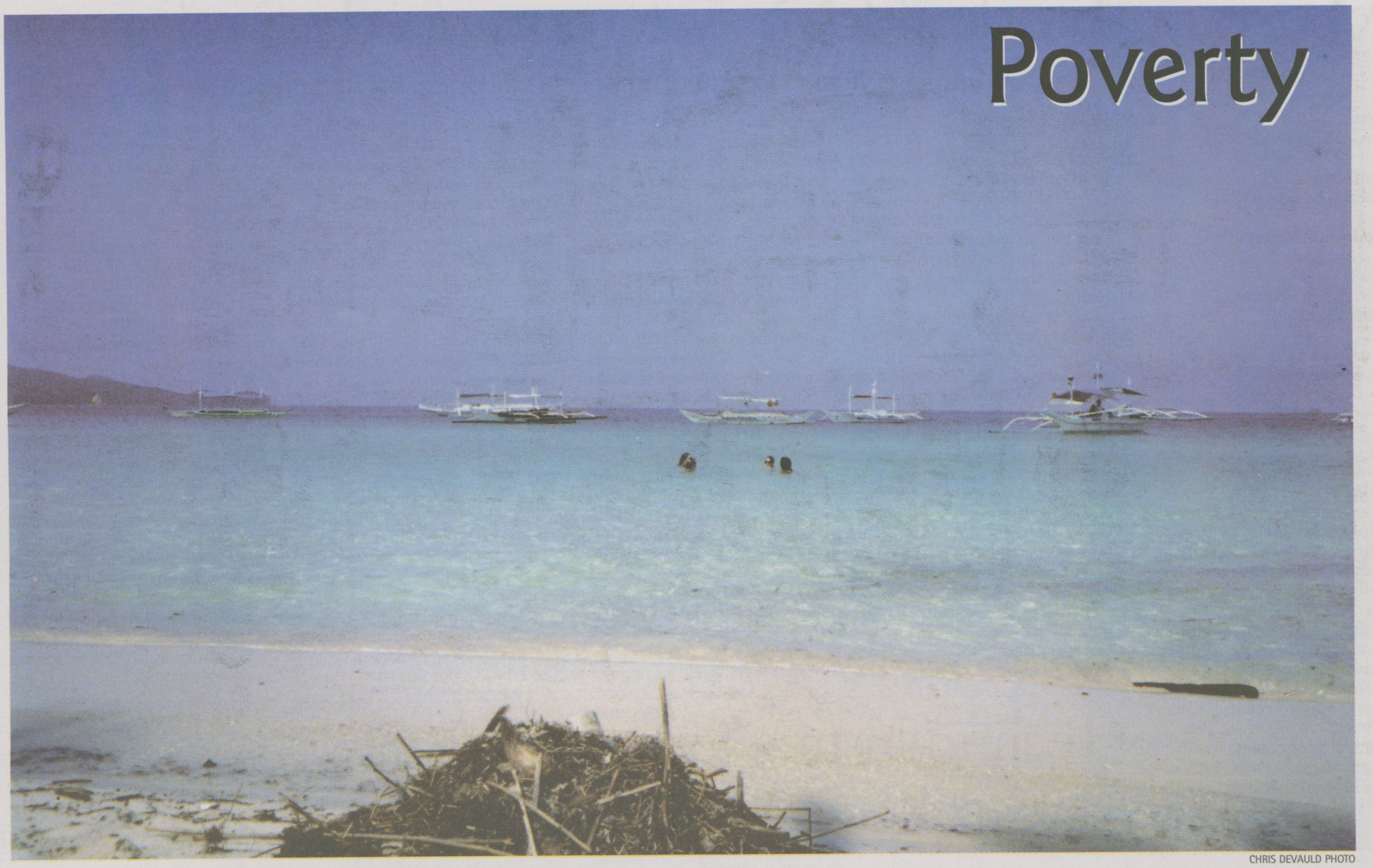
SC: Are you bullshitting me?

TS: I'm a shit disturber by definition.

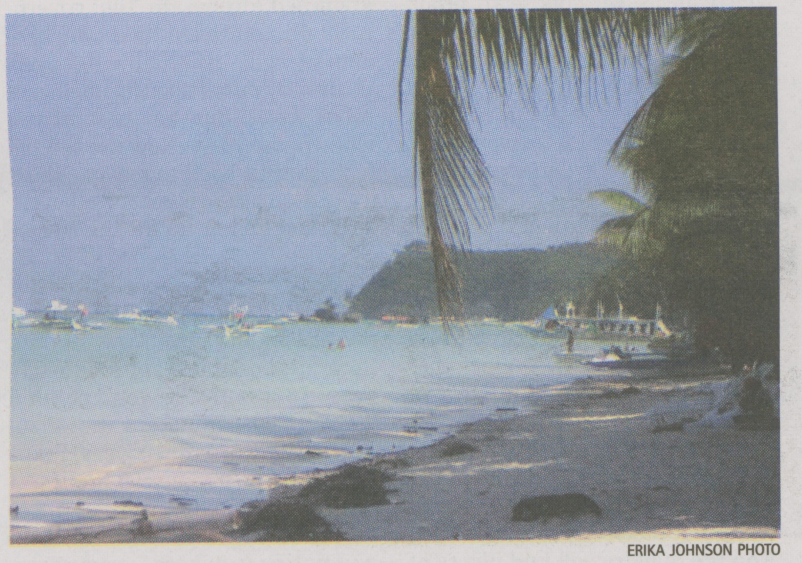
SC: So your name literally means the spreading of shit?

TS: Yes. I would have to say the biggest scam I ever pulled was when I ran for Mayor of Victoria three years ago. I would never in my life want to be mayor of Victoria.

Poverty In



CHRIS DEVAULD PHOTO



ERIKA JOHNSON PHOTO

CHRIS DEVAULD PHOTO

BRONWYN DAVIES PHOTO

by Chris Devauld

Tell me something about the Philippines.

I'll bet the first thing that pops into your mind is that it's a group of islands in Asia, so it's somewhere you might fly over on your way to the modern, backpacking Disneyland known as Thailand.

The Philippines has remained somewhat of an enigma to the average North American travelling junkie. Known mostly for its previous American military occupation, colonial history, and so-called pirates (Life Aquatic anyone?), this region is often brushed aside as just another "Eastern" country.

As a result, it might come as somewhat of a surprise to know that the Philippines consists of more than 7,000 islands, has remained over 90 per cent Christian since the Spanish arrived, and has a tropical fish market that fills about 80 per cent of the world's fish tanks (think about that the next time you flush Blinky down the toilet).

The Philippines lays claim to some of the most beautiful reefs, beaches, islands, and mountainous regions on the planet—it also nurtures a society that idealizes generosity and selflessness. This is all set amidst appalling poverty, which, ironically, is reflected in the nation's rapid globalization.

I begin my brief visit in the capital city of Manila, a sprawling metropolis that's home to more than 10 million inhabitants. The city is often hailed as the "Pearl of the Orient" because of its "strong" economy and modern vibe. However, there is little luster in the city. In fact, the average person doesn't appear to live in Manila so much as survive there.

The streets overflow with desperate poverty: I notice human shapes living underneath an overpass, among awkward huts of garbage, dirt, and old car parts. At stoplights children cling to my windows, gazing at me with a terrible hunger in their eyes. I can even make out large communities of people wading—and actually living—in the city's garbage dumps, existing off of the filth that other poor people had no use for.

It is impossible not to compare Manila's rat-race to our own, especially when most of the city's nicest buildings are none other than the beautiful cathedrals of the original Spanish settlement, and, of course, the mighty business tycoons of the west. But I guess I shouldn't be too critical of these North American corporations because, in an effort to demonstrate their cross-cultural flexibility, McDonald's includes a rice option with every Happy Meal and Starbucks is nice enough to offer locals a Mango Frappuccino. Good job.

Feeling guilty and curious, I enter a Burger King. I don't even have to make an effort to enter because the door is opened by a cheerful security guard whose other hand strokes an AK-47. Authority doesn't fuck around in this country.

"If you are caught dealing drugs," the immigration pamphlet declares, "you are subject to death." What's more, if you take a picture of a Burger King guard, which I am at least smart enough to ask about first, you'll most likely end up in jail. Fair enough—but if you enter a fast-food restaurant and someone doesn't open the door for you, bring you your burger in under five minutes and give you some paper towel after you flush the toilet, there's hell to pay. The guard smiles as I leave and tells me to enjoy my stay.

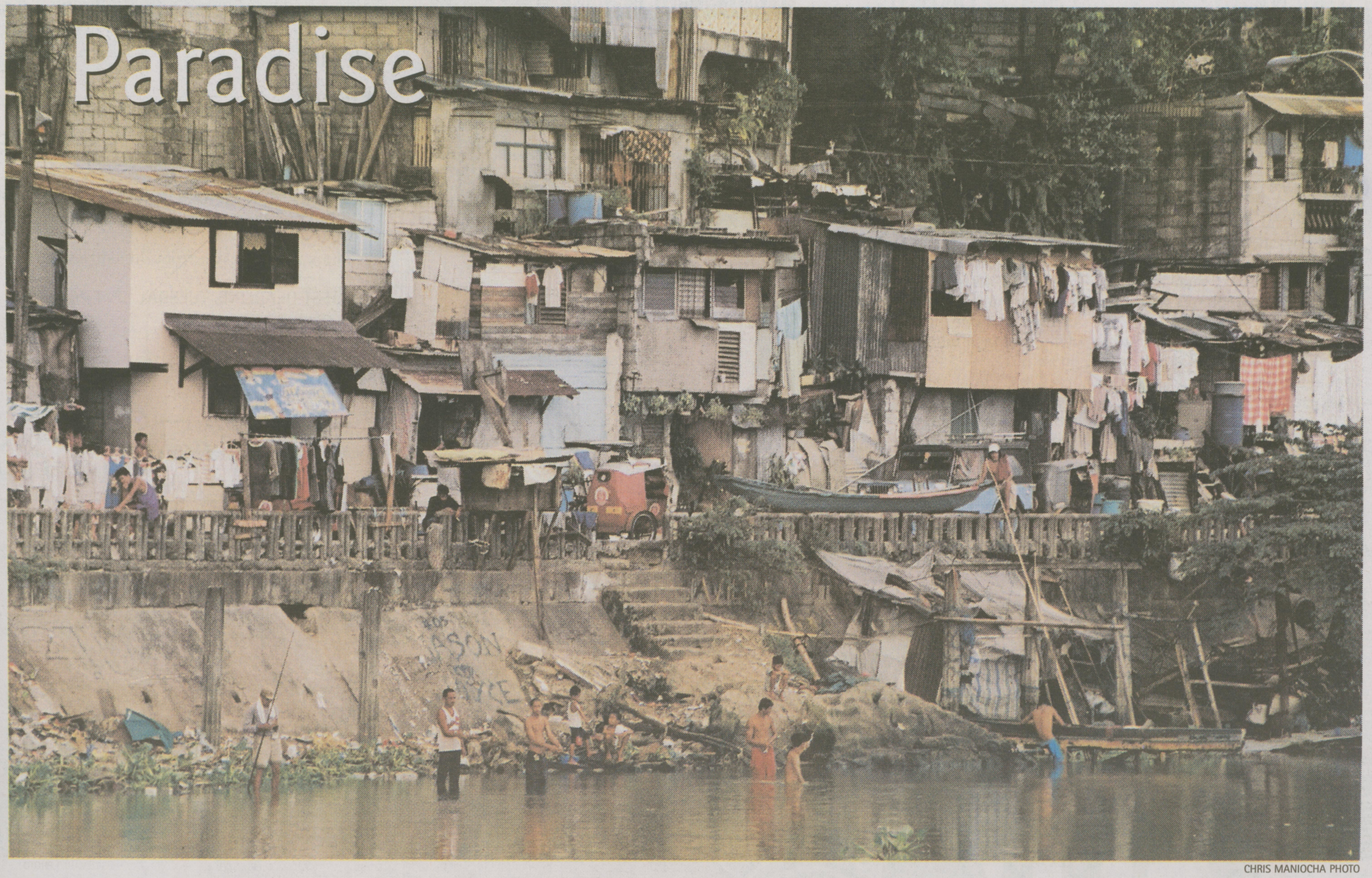
In order to understand the logic behind what seemed to be happy-faced poverty, I look no further than my next destination—the Visayas. Consisting of thousands of picturesque islands in the central region of the Philippines, the Visayas is hailed as one of the next "big things" in the travel world. Most of these islands are uninhabited, a few are overloaded with tourists, and some even harbor Islamist separatists and communist rebels who perform the odd terrorist attack on small ferries.

While drinking a bottle of exceptionally strong beer and boating around the famous White Beach of Boracay, Andrew, a local snorkelling guide, points out the facts. "Every year the American and European tourists increase in numbers. Yes, we have a small amount of agriculture, but tourism is our only real source of money, and all of the beautiful houses you see near the beachfront belong to Americans."

I would like to pretend that I completely understand his plight and respect his good-natured look on the whole "tourism is destroying the world thing," but there is one problem: I have a good chunk of the average Filipino's monthly salary back at my hotel, inside the wet pocket of some Billabong shorts that cost me about $6.

What I want to know is if it is a good thing to vacation in a country where more than 40 per cent of the population lives in poverty and where nothing is expensive except for suntan lotion and bottled water. Most of all, I want to know if it is a good thing that I am here.

n Paradise



CHRIS MANIOCHA PHOTO

I guess it's not surprising that places like Boracay are becoming more and more like a rich person's playground. There's an increasing demand for unspoiled, exotic locations, and I find it hard to imagine any tropical paradise escaping the clutch of globalization. Yeah, it sounds sad, but it's more complicated than that.

Andrew simply accepts the fact that my money makes his life easier and that his island offers an unspoiled tropical beauty, which North Americans like myself desire. "We're always happy when the tourism season picks up," Andrew claims, "because that's when we can rake in money—as long as we give the tourists what they want."

OK, that's logical enough. So we want beaches, pina coladas, palm trees and wild nightlife, right? Kind of like a trade system: we export our desires and the Filipinos fulfil them in exchange for money.

So what the hell are you supposed to think when underneath, above, behind, in front, and to your left is a tropical paradise that every picture in your Lonely Planet guidebook fails to live up to, but to your right is a 50-year-old redneck male wading in a tide pool with an adolescent Filipina girl?

In all honesty, it's very hard to remember that you're "on vacation" when your vacation is the same thing that dominates someone else's life.

Being a confused white guy on a four-kilometer white sand beach can be a surreal experience. Lucky for me, I run into Jordan. A former UVic business student, now owner of one of Boracay's wild nightclubs, Jordan is quite an enigma. Am I supposed to envy a guy who said "screw it" and lived happily-ever-after in the tropics, or am I supposed to be disgusted at his entrepreneurial bullying?

He's quick in answering my questions. "These people think differently than you and I. Being a Caucasian UVic dropout, I expected to be met with hatred and jealousy when I started this bar, but I was wrong. These people simply make the best of what they have so you should enjoy the fact that those 90 shots on your table cost around $90, but ultimately enjoy the fact that you're putting money into an economy that desperately needs it."

So I think, and I drink, and then I think some more, but thinking and drinking rarely co-operate. The only critical thought my mind is able to articulate an hour (or four?) later is remembering to keep a close eye on the bartender who is making my rum and coke. After all, in a country where pop costs more than rum, "watering a drink" translates to Filipino as "adding more booze." Of course, even too much water can make a person sick. . .

But there is no time for a hangover, or at least no time to think about it. I leave my tropical orgasm for another "day-after" destination: Baguio, a mountainous city in the northern province of Benguet. When I get there I discover a community that exists outside of the depressing streets of Manila and the too-good-to-be-true beaches of Boracay.

There is a comfortable poverty in the small city. Maybe this is due to the fact that most of Baguio's residents are Catholic, or maybe it's the fact that, besides the whole religious tyranny thing, little western influence has invaded it. I join a party at the local square and am greeted warmly by everyone. Right away it is apparent that what these people lack in the North American version of wealth they more than make up for in cheerfulness.

I feel like I was the one from a backwards country when I realized that the woman who stood beside me just wanted to talk. "You should go for a ride in a Jeepney," she says, "because everyone becomes friends before their stop."

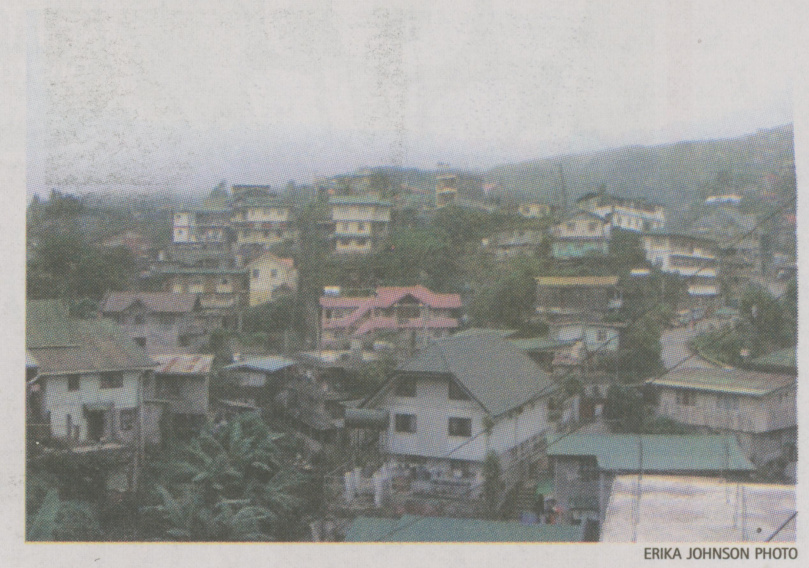
A Jeepney is an old American military jeep, which is gutted, equipped with benches, and redecorated as a fabulous, pimpin' ride. Jeepneys are the pride of the Philippines because they are the perfect symbol of how Filipinos have learned to cope with colonialism—by decorating it.

I would much rather be in a Jeepney talking to complete strangers, then shyly staring out the window of a deathly-quiet Greyhound. And then I realize that North America has made me cold.

Caught up in my consumerized life in Victoria, I was at first shocked by the Philippines' lack of materialism. That's just it: it's hard not to look at a country through western eyes. If we insist on classifying the Philippines as part of the troubled "East" (weird, I thought it was west from here?), then why do we first look for signs of the West?

This country is struggling with modernism, coping with tourists, and trying to deal with a history of depravity. Its beautiful reefs are being destroyed by dynamite and the chemicals used in fish extraction, its forests are being over-harvested in an effort to keep up with Asian lumber exports and exhaustive expansion, and its people are being forced to bow down to the desires of an increasing number of backpackers.

But if everyone I knew was as enduring, kind, and honest as the Filipinos I met, the world would truly be a happier place.



ERIKA JOHNSON PHOTO

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STUDENT ADVICE

Ask Bunny

What, you all have such perfect relationships that you don't need my advice? Bollocks! How's a gal supposed to feel with an empty (in) box?

Even if you don't have any girlfriend grievances, boyfriend bombshells, or one-night-stand debacles that require help, a quickie to say you enjoyed my column would be lovely!

To entice you, everyone who writes in will be entered in a draw to win a fantastic/orgasmic mystery prize package.

Until next week,
xoxo
- Bunny

PHOTO CONTEST

Enter now!

Hey everyone!

There's one week left to enter our "Eye for Detail" contest!

You could win a $50 gift certificate to SYN Bar and Grill or one of six free passes to Cinecenta.

See last week's issue (Sept. 8) for details—if you don't still have it, you can see it at our office, in the Student Union Building basement, room B011.

Deadline for entry is Sept. 20 at 2 p.m. Draw will be made from all entries.

CONTEST ENTRY FORM

1. _____
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10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

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Phone: _____

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FILL OUT AND DROP OFF IN THE MARTLET OFFICE, SUB B011 (in the basement of Student Union Building)

Winners will be drawn from the entries.

CONTEST DEADLINE, TUESDAY SEPT 20, 2 P.M.

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Breakfast of champions

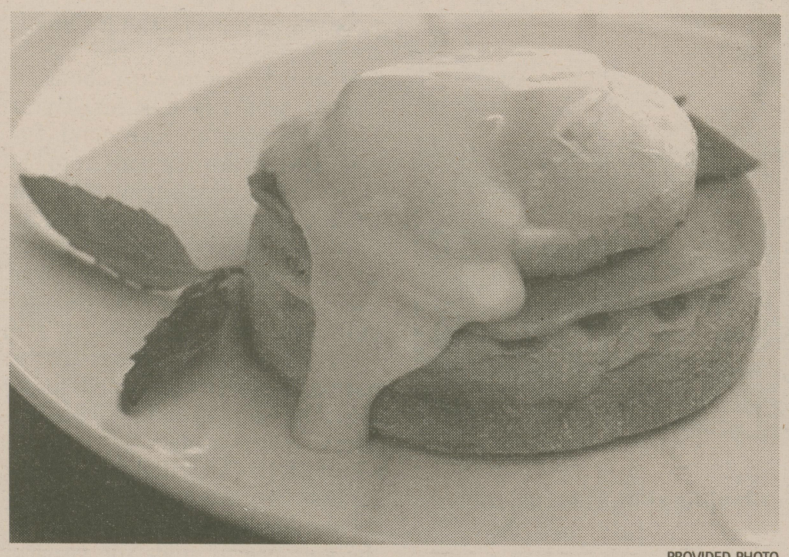
Your guide to Victoria's best all-day breakfast eateries

by Sacha Narine

At Denny's, an appropriate breakfast mantra is a line from a Weird Al song: *Eat it. Just eat it.*

Whether you're looking to class up your breakfast outings, or you simply want to shake up your addiction to bad food with a few good meals, the restaurants below have the goods on all-day (or nearly all-day) breakfast.

Omelettes and back bacon, eggs Benny, short stacks and Belgian waffles, and scrambles so ridiculous you'll hallucinate and spout gibberish in a state of egg-induced madness. It's all here, and it's damn tasty.



PROVIDED PHOTO

Eggs Benedict—the gold standard in extra creamy breakfasts.

Floyd's Diner

Where: 866 Yates St., corner of Yates and Quadra
Call: 381-5114

Floyd's is, for better or worse, the place to go for all-day breakfast. Although they offer a few dinner entrees, their operation shuts down at the leisurely hour of 4 p.m. One look at the menu and you'll know Floyd's is first and foremost a breakfast place. Three types of French toast, a page full of omelettes, the ludicrously low-priced "Roy McFarlin"—a no-nonsense eggs and toast breakfast—and plenty of delicious scrambles and eggs Benny selections monopolize its pages.

As a frequent patron, I know Floyd's all too well. I've been screwed by the Mahowny three times in a row. The Mahowny is Floyd's well-known gamble: the kitchen makes you something at random, and you either pay for whatever it is you get OR you flip a coin to pay double or nothing. I won one free meal, but was then condemned to pay double for three by losing three coin tosses. Play at your own risk.

Steer clear of Floyd's on Saturday or Sunday, unless you're content spending at least two hours in and around the restaurant. The wait can be upwards of half an hour, and the food comes slowly. If you make it in before 10:30 a.m. or after 2 p.m., you'll probably be okay. Otherwise, go on a week day. It's worth the wait, but nobody likes waiting for breakfast.

Blue Fox Café

Where: 919 Fort St., between Cook and Quadra
Call: 380-1683

An established breakfast hot spot, the Blue Fox Café is renowned not only for the quality of its offerings but for its frightening, America-sized portions. Order the French toast and you'll be hibernating for the next week.

The Blue Fox is also known for its scrumptious oatmeal dishes, which sound uninteresting but have become the stuff of legend. The staff is courteous, the setting, although slightly cramped, is warm and inviting, and the food comes quickly. Yet, like Floyd's, the Blue Fox often sports an unseemly line-up extending out the door and onto the sidewalk. The same rule applies: get there before 10:30 a.m. or after 2 p.m. and you should be okay. Otherwise, go on a week day.

Demitasse

Where: 1320 Blanshard St., corner of Blanshard and Johnson
Call: 386-4442

A personal favourite. Never too busy and always delicious, the Demitasse Café serves up some remarkable meals in arty, and rather noisy, surroundings. Their lattés are some of the best in town, the eggs Benny special is usually a shining example of the form, and their omelettes are nothing to sneeze at. Prices are reasonable, perhaps five or ten per cent above Floyd's, but the monetary cost is easily offset by the fact that you'll rarely, if ever, have to wait for a table. Demitasse is small, but it's just not that popular. Not yet, anyway.

For a mind-boggling breakfast, order the banana-bread French toast. Just imagine…French toast made with banana bread, topped with sautéed bananas. Sure, you're eating dessert for breakfast, but it's a superb start to your day. Just don't expect to finish it without some help.

John's Place

Where: 723 Pandora Ave., near the corner of Douglas and Pandora
Call: 389-0711

John's Place is an institution. Founded in 1984 by John Cantin, this popular breakfast location is famous for its nine unique eggs Benedict dishes and its odd addition of Thai cuisine (mostly for dinner). John's wife is from Chiang Mai.

As is the nature of institutions, John's Place is busy as hell on Saturday mornings, and holidays are ridiculous.

The place is covered in campy memorabilia, but unlike Floyd's hilarious wall-writing and portraits of John Wayne and James Dean, the knick-knacks at John's Place are almost entirely uncool: the discomforting collectibles of an aging sports fan.

But who cares? The prices are great, the menu is overflowing, and there's this one server who's really friggin' hot. Just make reservations, or you'll be ogling her through the window while satisfied diners give you the evil eye.

Molé

Where: 554 Pandora Ave., a block south of Chinatown
Call: 385-6653

A sanctuary for discerning diners, Molé offers a classy breakfast that eschews jumbo portions (a la Blue Fox) for unique flavours, great presentation, and more health-conscious choices on the menu. Exhibit A: their pan-fries are sprinkled with pesto.

It's a different kind of restaurant. The décor a little less ironic, the atmosphere a little quieter, but the food is top-notch. Try their soup of the day, usually a wonderful surprise, and don't be afraid to try something different.

Molé acts as a weekend watering hole for urban hipsters and new-wave bohemians. Look past the shiny exterior to the practical core—this place is loaded with unique flavours, breakfast standards, and some of the best soup in the city. It's a perfect way to break your routine, but expect a short wait on weekends. Molé deserves its popularity.

Shine Café

Where: 1548 Fort St., near Fort and Oak Bay
Call: 595-2133

The Shine Café is a reliable breakfast place, reassuring with its fresh fruit, delicious coffees and other hot beverages. Featuring all the usual dishes, but without any clear standouts, Shine is a great place to go if you're looking for something out of the downtown core. Buried in a sort-of strip mall on Fort St., beside a Subway and a hair salon, Shine serves the downtown-phobic.

Yet it's often far busier than you'd expect. Perhaps reputation is enough to surmount the café's rather awkward location, since you can expect to wait a few minutes on weekends.

I daresay Shine is tasty yet unremarkable, a good choice but not a great one due to its geographic limitations and surprising popularity.

If we've skipped over your favourite breakfast stop, or if you've discovered a hidden gem and, for some idiotic reason, you want to spread the word, drop us a line at life@martlet.ca.

For now, always remember: sausage is better than bacon, and everything is better than ham.

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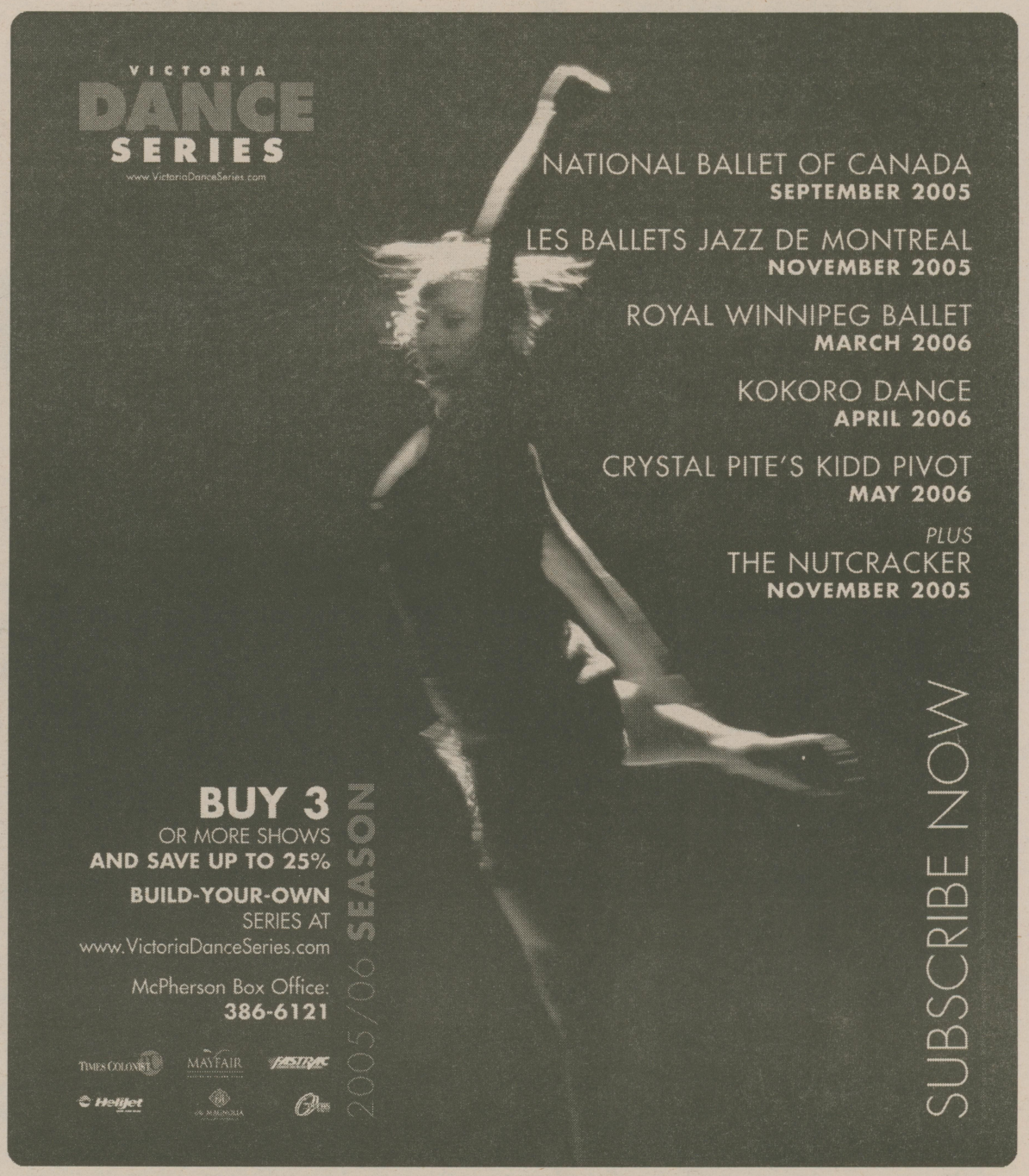


Architect John A. Di Castri passes away

Native Victorian designed Cornett, SUB and Interfaith Chapel

by Angela Andersen

John A. Di Castri, architect, passed away on September 5, 2005. He was a man I only met briefly, and yet he influences my life almost every day.

In fact, if you have walked through the original sections of the Student Union Building, headed to class in Cornett or passed the Interfaith Chapel, the work of John Di Castri, fellow of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, has shaped how you move through space on the UVic campus.

Born in Victoria in 1924, he began his architectural career in 1942 with the B.C. Department of Public Works. He eventually attended the University of Oklahoma, where he responded to the teachings of Bruce Goff, who was a student of the one and only Frank Lloyd Wright. Armed with practical experience and what some might label Modernist (with a capital M) idealism, Di Castri returned to Victoria in search of clients.

His struggle to convince Victorians of the practicality and beauty of modern design (when Rattenbury's Empress and Legislature were icons of class and style in the city) would last the length of his career. His responses to criticisms of his work were pointed, but polite and studied, honed by years of discussing his architectural projects.

ANGELA ANDERSEN PHOTO

John A. Di Castri designed a number buildings on campus, including Cornett.

I was able to interview Di Castri in May of 1999. He made a point of crediting young, post-war homeowners with an openness to intelligent designs. "When I was starting off, Victoria wasn't exactly receptive to new ideas. It was a very conservative community. But then an interesting thing happened during the early '50s. People coming back from the war, particularly the younger people starting off—when you told them about what architecture was all about, they responded so well. They accepted ideas that were maybe quite far out for Victoria."

When I began to learn about Di Castri's work, it was his Trend House, located on Richmond Avenue, that made me a convert to his architectural philosophy. Built in 1954 as a show-piece to promote Canadian softwood lumber in the construction industry, this thoughtfully designed home was built with such attention to the needs of its writer-owner that a narrow table was designed to fit along the walls, in order to hold her piles of manuscripts.

In 1951, Di Castri designed offices for the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, curving the walls of the entrance to guide the visually impaired from the street and into the interior. It is now a coffee shop on Blanshard, and the ignorant treatment of that sensitive building pains me every time I pass it.

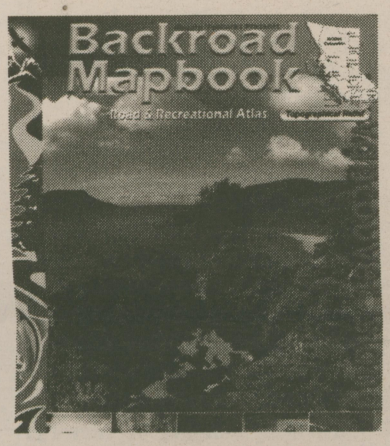
Victoria, currently the home of the faux-heritage condo, continues to mis-interpret Di Castri's architectural practicality. New owners have moved into his homes and public buildings. Mistaking carefully designed features for bits of modern whimsy and '60s kitsch, they have bricked over his angles and turns, destroying the harmonious relationship intended between the architecture and its living occupants.

Students grumble about UVic's Cornett Building, claiming they never know where they will end up. Well, you can't study in the one-room schoolhouse forever. Besides, movement through innovative architectural space stimulates the brain.

In a time when the two ends of the architectural spectrum include the stylings of Hollywood stars-cum-architects and developers who would just as soon use tin foil and cardboard as real building materials, it is tricky to spot the gems amongst the collapsible garden sheds.

Di Castri gave Victoria churches, homes, schools and university buildings, all linked by the question that was the foundation of his approach to architecture: "What is line and designing but creating a setting for people?"

BOOK REVIEW | BACKROAD MAPBOOK: VANCOUVER ISLAND



Backroad Mapbook: Vancouver Island
Mussio Ventures
$22.95 (suggested price)

by Bryna Hallam

We live in one of the most beautiful areas of the world.

If you decide you actually want to take advantage of it, you need to know how to get out there.

That's where *Backroad Mapbooks* come in. The Vancouver Island guide, now in its fourth edition, gives a good overview of recreation spots all over the island, no matter what your interests are.

The book is clearly organized and groups listings by interest: fishing, paddling, camping and trails (hiking, biking, etc). Each listing gives a brief description, a list of amenities (where applicable) and a map reference.

A quick flip to the map section will show you exactly where you're talking about. There are 50 topographical maps in total, and each section has its attractions clearly marked. There are also a handful of city maps, handy for those inevitable pit stops.

The book admits that its listings aren't exhaustive (it's good to keep some things secret, after all) but with more than 50 pages of places to go, it's a pretty good start. The destinations and activities range from easy-enough-for-your-grandma to you'd-better-know-your-stuff.

This might not be the book to get if you're the type who likes lots of detail about destinations or step-by-step guides on where to go and what to do once you get there. Ditto if you're not very experienced in the outdoors—you won't get instructions on how to pitch a tent or what to take on a hike, for example.

But if you're looking for a comprehensive overview of what there is to do on Vancouver Island, this book will prove well-worth the 20-odd dollars price tag.

Fine arts foyer plays host to Antimatter film fest

Event includes a number of international entries

What: Antimatter Underground Film Festival
Where: Open Space, UVic Visual Arts Building, Deluge Contempory Art
When: Sept. 15–24
How much: depends on event—ranges from free to $6, $5 for students and seniors

by Max Lamb

The Antimatter Underground Film Festival premieres this week with a free outdoor screening in the Visual Arts sculpture yard.

The festival, now in its eighth year, plays host to the eccentric and peerless genre of experimental film. This year has 22 different programs that will showcase 219 individual works over the course of nine days.

"We are lucky to have the attention of experimental and underground filmmakers everywhere," said Deborah de Boer, one of the festival's founding members.

"We are one of the largest festivals of our sort. Along with the Images Festival in Toronto and the Festival of New Cinema in Montreal, we make the three largest experimental and underground film festivals in the country."

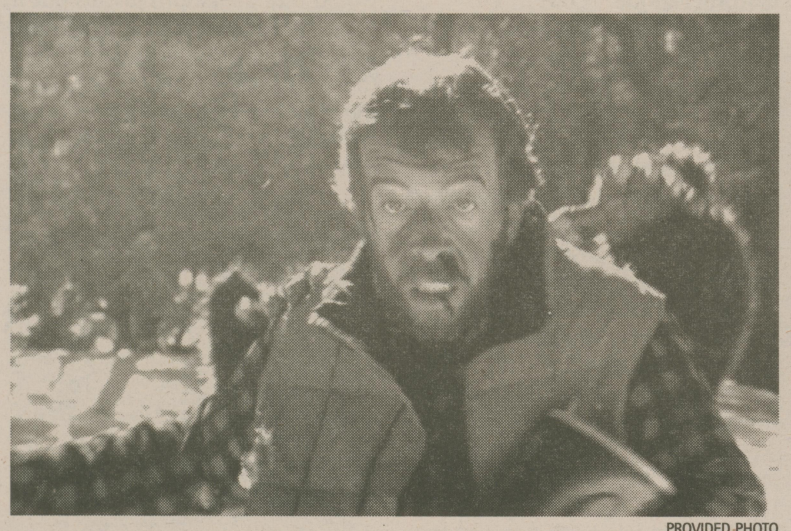
The event includes a hefty number of international entries, including four programs in the annual Foreign Matter portion that showcase works from Hong Kong, Belgium, the UK, and Mexico, whose program will open the festival.

"We're starting to make connections internationally," says de Boer. Antimatter also runs international tours of experimental Canadian film, which recently toured in the Philippines, Turkey, and Portugal.

In 1991, de Boer began a program called Rogue Art, which presented exhibitions of visual contemporary art to the community of Victoria. Seven years later, she and Todd Eacrett founded the film festival to expose the fresh movement of media art to the public.

"After seven years of presenting visual arts to the community, we were interested in exposing media arts as well," said de Boer. "We knew we wanted to feature short films. The festival director himself has always had a strong interest in experimental film. All of this conspired to make the first festival in 1998."

Among the 219 works featured this year is the Victoria premiere of Caroline Martel's *The Phantom of the Operator*.



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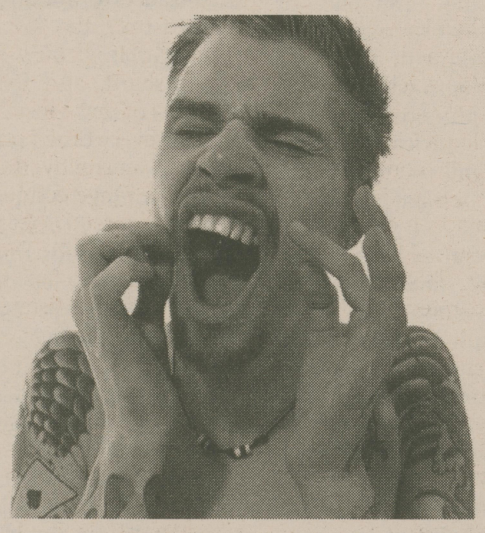
***Broadcast 23*–Sunday, Sept. 18, 9 p.m.**



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***...an inquiry into Human Nature*–Friday, Sept. 16, 9 p.m.**

This highly acclaimed piece is an assembly of over one hundred clips of rare industrial, advertising, and scientific management films by Bell and Western Electric between the years 1903 and 1989.

Martel arranged the clips to create a mélange documentary of the early telephone operators in relation to the progress of each company's technology.

The eerie choice of the Visual Arts sculpture yard is sure to create a sort of spectral ambience for the viewer. "It's a strange, twisted, lunar landscape," said de Boer of the venue. "It has this sort of frightening chain-link fence in the midst of this beautiful and aesthetic landscape. It's a beautiful spot for an outdoor screening. We have a strong relationship with the Visual Arts program of the University of Victoria."

During the festival, the University of Victoria Visual Arts Department will be hosting *La Imagen que Extrana al Tiempo*, a collection of video and film works by Mexican artists Silvana Agostini, Hector Falcón and Mauricio Alejo.

Experimental film is certainly the dark horse of the industry. Few accomplished experimental and underground filmmakers ever make box office success stories out of their works, all save the likes of Spike Jonze and Michel Gondry. This allows these works to be appreciated at exclusive level, like a film that's your little secret.

They are often egocentric, deluded and manipulative, but from time to time you catch those one or two pieces of work that reach a level of quality that wide acclaim and success can only destroy.

Experimental and underground films are truly the last exclusive form of motion picture.

PROVIDED PHOTO

***The Execution of Margot Rumebe*–Saturday, Sept. 17, 11 p.m.**

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CD REVIEWS | HEDLEY / CONNIE KALDOR / JASON COLLETT

Hedley
Hedley
Universal

Ever since Hedley frontman Jacob Hoggard pranced along the *Canadian Idol* stage, respledent in a vinyl bodysuit complete with makeup and nail polish, anticipation for him to release his own record has been high.

Well, for *Canadian Idol* fans anyway.

In truth, Abbotsford based Hedley's self-titled debut carries none of the sugar-pop sweetness that *Idol* is notorious for. It's a very solid, feel-good rock album that would make an excellent addition to any car or dorm music collection.

And trust me: none of your friends would make the *Idol* connection at all.

What makes Hedley's sound differ from a lot of emerging rock is quite simple: Jacob's voice has a unique and edgy tone to it and, combined with his insane amount of energy, makes for a strong vocal performance on every track.

The album's diversity is refreshing as well. Through the first two tracks ("Villain" and the band's first single, "On My Own"), you realize that Jacob's voice and the accompanying group can easily perform upbeat, catchy songs.

The rock ballad "Trip" confirms that they can also turn it down a notch as well, but never do they compromise the energy or quality of sound. Other highlights include the melodic, acoustic guitar ridden "Gunnin," which could easily be a request for a memorable slow song at a dance, and the tune "321," whose chorus you'll be singing in the shower for weeks.

When it comes down to it, Hedley is a band that isn't just going to fade into the background of the unforgiving music scene. This debut is a very pleasing listen that makes you feel satisfied you got your money's worth (a rarity these days, to be sure). Plus it has all of the bells and whistles to ensure it stays steady on the charts. As I'm writing, *Hedley* is sitting at number three on the HMV music list. Pretty good for some local boys, eh?

Right now, if you mention Hedley to a friend, you'll probably draw a blank stare. But it won't be the same a couple of months from now.

-Sarah L. Wakelin

Connie Kaldor
Sky With Nothing to Get in the Way
Coyote Entertainment Group

Picking up this CD, I had no idea what it was about, and after listening to it twice I'm not much further ahead.

Looking at the cover, you'd expect an album filled with either country twang or a throwback to hippie-era folk, and that is indeed what you get. For an added bonus, throw in a blend of gospel, jazz and bluegrass music as well.

I found the transition from folk to jazz to country abrupt and sometimes distracting. The sudden leap into upbeat, drum-laden country from the soothing sounds of folk actually made me jump once or twice, though my experience may have been biased by the fact that I listened to the album while making the rounds as a pizza-delivery driver. When you're stuck in a car for five hours at night, you tend to get really involved in whatever you're listening to.

Connie Kaldor gives a strong vocal performance, and although I prefer music with a little more depth, the album provides a few solid hits. For sheer campy goodness, "Rickety old Railroad Track" (the name says it all) just can't be beat, and "Troubles Fall Like Rain" is quietly uplifting.

Still, this album's likely future is to provide accompaniment to a long night of studying, or to be quietly ignored as the background music in a downtown coffee shop.

On a random note, the disc itself is a pale green, somewhat like seafoam but less blue. I find it an absolutely fascinating colour and would buy the album just to put it on a shelf and look at it. For those who prefer to judge their CDs by the music they contain, this is a moot point. But for all you other oddballs, it may be something to consider.

-Kimberly Armstrong

Jason Collett
Idols of Exile
Arts and Crafts

Pity Toronto.

Back around the summer and fall of 2003, when Broken Social Scene had won a Juno for *You Forgot It in People* and the Metric had just released *Old World Underground, Where Are You Now?* critics and white-belt types from New York to Tokyo to Berlin suddenly had one eye on the city's burgeoning indie scene.

It was delightful because it was unexpected—staid, unlovable Hogtown finally got the chance to feel pretty. Toronto bit its thumb at Vancouver's balmy winters and Montreal's old-world charm.

But the wheel turns. Two years later Montreal's (by way of Victoria) Wolf Parade are preparing to set the world on fire, and it's hard to keep up with all the great bands coming out of Vancouver (Destroyer, Black Mountain/Pink Mountaintops, Three Inches of Blood).

Meanwhile, albums from the luminaries of 2003 have ranged from pretty okay (Hidden Cameras, Great Lake Swimmers) to pretty blah (the Constantines, the Fembots). Chalk up one more in the blahs with *Idols of Exile*, the second album from Broken Social Scene guitarist/songwriter Jason Collett.

Like the overblown title, *Exile's* tunes and lyrics conspire to create the impression of substance while basically saying nothing.

Collett leads us through pedantic country arrangements like he's tugging on the nose-ring of a docile cow, offering scant lyrical enticement as though a listlessly repeated "marmalade sun, marmalade sun" will coax a song into agreeable feyness, or an "I followed her down, followed her down" chorus elevate it to tragic.

Occasionally Collett captures the sham-bolic aesthetic of Broken Social Scene's "Anthems for a Seventeen-Year-Old Girl," but his bland voice inspires longing for the breathily pretty vocals of Emily Haines.

Most of *Exile* is eminently forgettable, but what's left is pretty pleasant. "Pink Night" is a nice little drinking song, and "I'll Bring the Sun" would suit a road-trip mixtape—maybe three songs in, while you're still stuck in traffic on the 401 out of Toronto. But you'd need something with more soul for cruising rue Ste. Catherine, or descending the Coquihalla to the West Coast.

-Martin McCarvill

The right side of the tracks

Outdoor gallery revitalizes former Esquimalt crime corridor

What: Trackside Art Gallery
Where: 800 block of Hereward St.
When: Open 24 hours a day, every day (it's outside, after all)
How much: Free

by Bryna Hallam

BRYNA HALLAM PHOTO

Esquimalt's Trackside Art Gallery mixes urban art with paintings—and waving at the passing Via Rail trains.

Brightly coloured spray-paint covers nearly every surface—walls, stairs, railway trestle—in the 800 block of Hereward Street.

This isn't the work of random vandals spraying their "tags" on buildings and walls, but part of a display of "urban art" in the Rock Solid Foundation's Trackside Art Gallery (TAG).

In addition to the street-level artwork, the gallery boasts 47 mounted paintings that tower over their surroundings: an expanse of grass, the metal towers of a power station, a stretch of railway tracks.

It isn't hard to imagine this area as a crime corridor. And before the Rock Solid Foundation stepped in, that's exactly what it was.

Now it's the largest outdoor youth art gallery in the world.

Set on the 800 block of Hereward Street in Esquimalt, the gallery is a bright addition to the neighbourhood. Literally—the paintings are lit at night because, as Rock Solid points out, "light is a major tool in crime prevention."

Kindergarten students to professionals, the artists are a diverse group whose styles range from abstract to still life.

The paintings are fun to look at, partly because of their size and location, partly because of the wide range of styles and subject matter.

Each painting is accompanied by a statement or bio of the artist, a touch that makes the experience personal.

The art is good, too—even the youngest kid is more talented than I am—and the juxtaposition of great art with an urban environment makes the entire area into a sort of giant piece of art.

TAG's urban art is fascinating as well, and might even be my favourite part of the exhibit.

A patchwork section of squares nestles under the train trestle, turning what would otherwise be a dingy and dark corridor into a cheery walk, and the addition of goldfish, dragons and abstract shapes to nearby fences is a bit surreal—in a good way.

Even the experience of dodging trains (the morning Via train passed me on it's way up island) to look at art is worth the visit.

More important, of course, is supporting an innovative community project.

A group of law enforcement officials, Victoria Shamrocks and Canadian rugby players started the Rock Solid Foundation in 1997 to offer violence prevention programs to local youth. Since then, the group has spoken to over 750,000 young people and developed violence prevention and conflict resolution programs for elementary school students.

TAG started in 2002 as a youth community development project—a group of eight young people were involved in the initial start up, and youth continue to be involved with the project.

How to find the Trackside Art Gallery

From Downtown
Cross the Johnson Street bridge. Turn right on Catherine, left on Wilson, and right on Hereward. Once at the trestle, look to your left.

From Admirals
Go down Esquimalt Road towards downtown, turn left on Dominion, right on Wilson and left on Hereward. Once you're at the trestle, look to your left.

From Craigflower
Turn left or right on Dominion...Dominion turns into Hereward...look to your right...you can't miss it.

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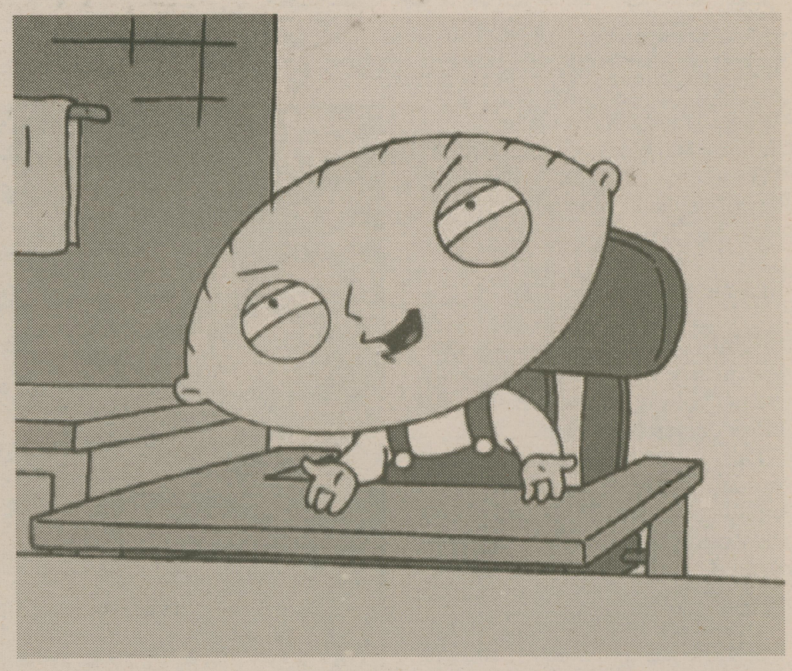
DVD REVIEW | STEWIE GRIFFIN – THE UNTOLD STORY

by Ford Walker



Gigidy! Gigidy! Alright!

An all-new *Family Guy* DVD, consisting of a full-length movie starring the Griffin family baby, Stewie, will be released on Sept. 27.

Stewie Griffin—The Untold Story was originally written as three separate episodes, which is evident in the movie, as there really is no cohesive plotline.

Fans will appreciate the lack of censorship gained by releasing this straight to DVD. This is not to say that the movie goes overboard like *South Park* did in its movie, *Bigger, Longer and Uncut*. A tastefully added curse here and there adds much to the movie's comic effect.

Packed with hilarious scenes, the movie should elicit laughs from all fans of the Fox animated series. However, with a total running time of 88 minutes, *The Untold Story* begins to feel like a glorified episode of *Family Guy*.

Filled with the lengthy absurdist tangents that made *Family Guy* a hit, it takes a lot of patience to sit through the entire movie. Only the most diligent fans will find the movie worth viewing in its entirety.

The major theme of the movie (or at least the only continuing storyline) concerns Stewie watching the news and discovering an older man who looks and acts just like him. He and Brian go on an adventure to San Francisco in hopes of discovering this man, who Stewie is convinced is his real father.

What makes this DVD truly hilarious is the same ingredient that made the show such a hit: a no-holds-barred review of pop culture. From the scene in which Elmer Fudd brutally murders Bugs Bunny to the two *Star Trek* bits, the movie pokes fun at all areas of the entertainment industry, no matter how obscure the reference is.

It's good that this movie will be released straight to DVD, because it may not be worth an $9 movie ticket. You're either going to want to own it because you're a hardcore fan, or you'll rent it once and be satisfied with a single viewing.

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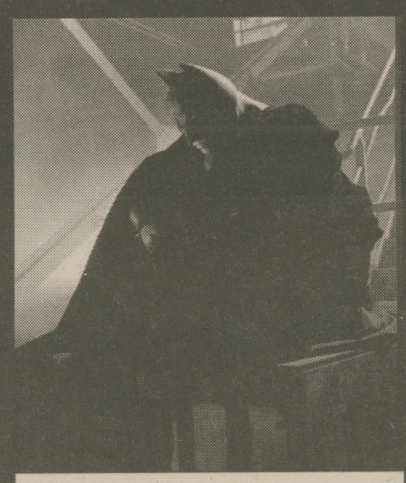
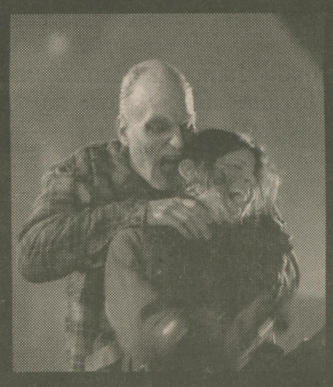
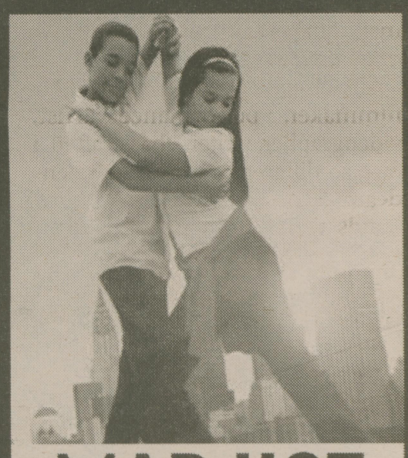


BATMAN BEGINS
THURS; 6:45 & 9:30
FRI & SAT; 2:30 & 6:45 & 9:30



LAND OF THE DEAD
FRI & SAT MIDNIGHT



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MOVIE REVIEW | THE EXORCISM OF EMILY ROSE

by Ford Walker

While the title, not to mention the trailer, leads you to believe that *The Exorcism of Emily Rose* will deal solely with what happened to Emily Rose, it has little to do with the actual ritual.

The movie deals directly with the court case of Father Moore (Tom Wilkinson), who performed the religious rite and is tried for the negligent murder of Emily. Erin Bruner (Laura Linney), who is Moore's legal defence, plays the star role.

Now, you might notice that this movie doesn't sound that horrifying, and for the most part it isn't. In fact, nearly 60 per cent of the movie is spent in the courtroom, and as such it is more like a legal drama then a horror movie.

The only truly scary parts are recounted by witnesses of the exorcism, yet as far as modern horror goes these parts are nothing original.

The truly interesting parts of the movie are the questions raised by Bruner as she begins to question her belief in empiricism and cannot explain the evidence brought forth by the court case. This film fills the viewer with many ethical and theological questions, and obviously the audience is meant to review their own faith and morals.

From a technical perspective, the movie has many failings. It is very slow at times. Furthermore, the camera use is very innovative in some parts and very stagnant at others and the director uses a lot of cliché horror movie techniques. A number of scenes in this movie should have been left on the editing room floor.

The movie is based on a real court case and the Catholic Church, in an incredibly rare event, sanctioned the exorcism itself. The movie pretends to be objective in displaying the facts, with the prosecutor Ethan Thomas (Campbell Scott) pointing out the obvious arguments against demonic possession. However, his character is made out to be a douche bag, and it is hard for the audience to find his arguments credible.

Overall, this movie comes off as a Sunday school sermon. It intends for the viewer to assume Emily Rose was possessed and that spirits exist, both evil and good. It has the same feeling as *The Passion of the Christ* and *Constantine*, which also strive to scare people into believing in Christianity.

This movie was truly a religious and philosophical experience. However, it could have been much better, and gets a rating of mediocre. This movie is worth the four dollar rental fee, but isn't worth the eight bucks to see it on the big screen.

MOVIE REVIEW | ME AND YOU AND EVERYONE WE KNOW

by Briony Smith

Dousing his hand in lighter fluid, a man lights himself on fire in an effort to impress his impassive sons, his arm flapping madly as the credits appear.

He later says he realized that it was rubbing alcohol that burns off—lighter fluid sears you—before he torched himself, but he did it anyway.

This attempt at connection, of impressing yourself upon another human being, regardless of the sting it may incur, lies at the heart of *Me and You and Everyone We Know*.

Jack-of-all-trades Miranda July—filmmaker, performance artist, videographer, writer—has crafted a film so different, awkward and endearing that it plays like holding hands with a painfully outsidered person you once knew, or were. Or are.

Any attempts at plot description seem arbitrary. Artist Christine (played by July herself) pays the bills by running a taxi service for old folks. Accompanying one of her charges into a department store, she encounters Richard (John Hawkes), a Vincent Gallo-esque shoe salesman, his hand bandaged from his attempt to "save his own life" through trial by fire...or lighting fluid, rather.

Intrigued, she keeps coming back, eventually leading up to a setpiece of startling sweetness and originality that wouldn't be out of place in a good Cameron Crowe flick—Christine suggests that the street they are walking down is the course of their life, with the street corner the end of their relationship, and each lamp-post, storefront, is a landmark in their time together.

This scene, with a poignancy missing from the one-liner-filled shoot-'em-up bleep-bloop-extravaganzas that plague theaters, couples with the movie's gentle, unexpected humor to startle the viewer out of film-watching complacency.

This includes the forays of Richard's young sons (played with amazing skill by Miles Thompson and Brandon Ratcliff) into the big bad world of sex: a side-splitting experiment with sex chat rooms (where they tell an online paramour that he is into "poop," the dirtiest thing they can think of), and an elaborate first blowjob from two girls eager to accumulate enough experience to match their world-weary attitudes.

It may all sound a little wacky, but the film pulls off a rare feat—the people seem real: weird, smart, strange, loveable. A little bit like me, you, and everyone we know, and it's well worth entering their world.

Me and You and Everyone We Know *is playing at Cinecenta on Sept. 21 and 22.*

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Chasing the wind

Getting swept away by kiteboarding

by Anna Czolpinski

ANNA CZOLPINSKI PHOTO

Kiteboarding is more a passion than a sport for the most dedicated enthusiasts.

This spring my boyfriend went mad for kiteboarding.

Walking along Dallas Road, he noticed the giant colourful kites hanging above the horizon and said, "What's that? I want to do that!"

Soon after, he started spending all of his spare time scouring the Internet for information on required gear and lessons. He was not deterred even after learning that the guy he was buying equipment from was still recovering from a set of broken ribs acquired during a kiting accident.

Before long, he started to tell me I had to take lessons with him. But after hearing about all the various "kitemares," which included kiters being launched 10 or more metres into the air and ending up in trees or on highways, I assured him I would be more than happy to watch from the shore.

Next thing I knew, we were driving down the Washington coast towards Oregon for a kiteboarding camp. In order to be accepted for the lessons, I had to accumulate at least 30 hours of flying time on a trainer kite to learn to steer and handle it.

I started off with a little theory—the kite is flown in a three dimensional arc made up of the wind window and the power zone. With the rider's back to the wind, the wind window is an arc that extends over his or her head from the left to the right side. The kite has the least amount of power when positioned in the wind window. The power zone is the area directly in front of the rider—the kite will pull the hardest when directed into this area.

We practiced flying our kites on large open beaches all the way down the Pacific coast. As I perfected my skills, my boyfriend cringed in silence whenever I crashed his kite into trees, bushes and sand dunes

In the wee hours of the morning, on our first day of lessons in Hood River, Ore. we parked our car on the already packed kite beach and met our instructor Carlos, who runs his own kite school in Venezuela and spends summers on the Oregon coast and winters in Baja, Mexico, chasing the wind.

He welcomed us to his office, also known as Hood River's Kite Beach, and set us up with a vast array of equipment—a control bar with lines, kites sized appropriately for our weight and skill level, wet suits, harnesses, life jackets, helmets and booties.

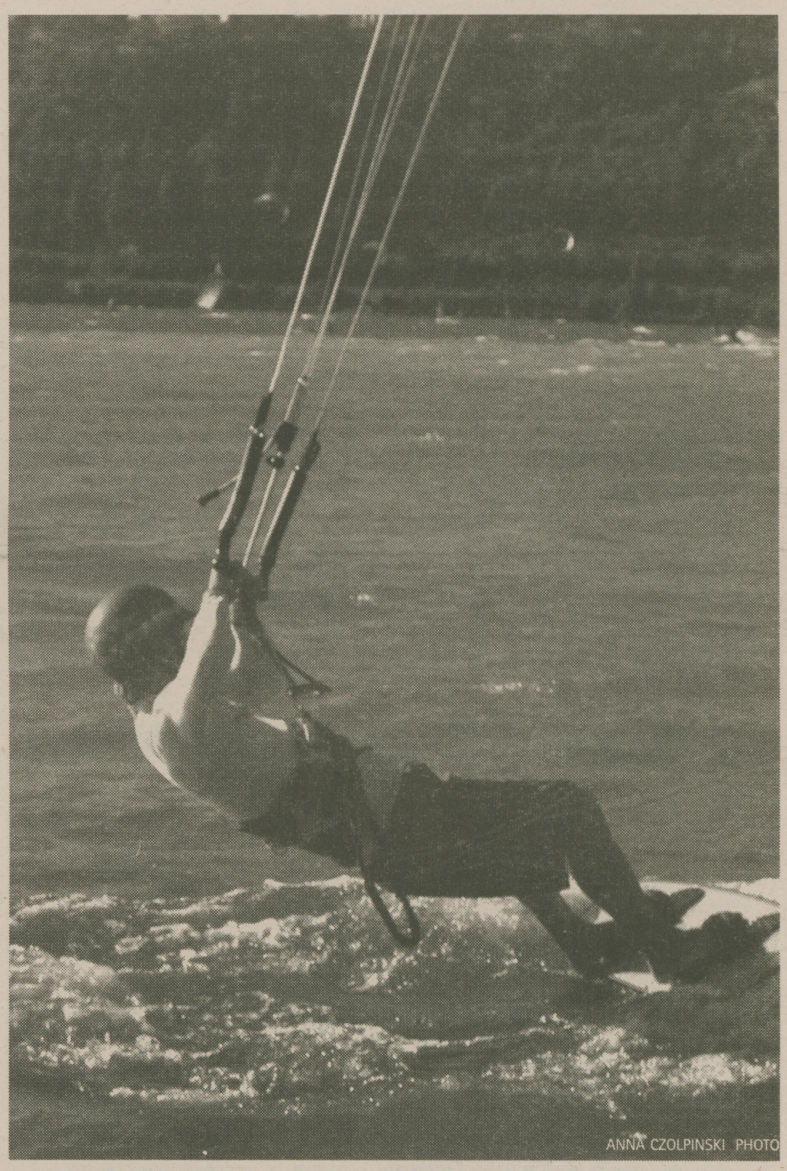
Since kiting is 90 per cent flying skills and only 10 per cent board skills, our lessons were initially focused on learning to fly ever-larger kites. Once we learned how to relaunch our kites from the water, had numerous lessons on safety and mastered the "body drag"—a manoeuvre in which the rider gets used to being pulled through the water by the kite—it was time to try getting some rides out of the board.

The idea is to float on your back, using the control bar to keep the kite—27 metres above your head—steady with one hand, while using the other hand to locate the board and place your feet into the foot straps.

Next, with your knees to your chest, dive the kite into the "power zone" to get the necessary power to lift yourself out of the water and onto the board. After several attempts and a few crash landings (during which you will be extremely happy to have a professional instructor guiding you through these initial stages), eventually it will happen—you will be up and flying…

If you are interested in the sport, go and watch the experienced kiters ripping it up on Dallas Road. As it turns out, Vancouver Island is as good a place as any to get involved in the sport.

Watching, however, is never enough when it comes to kiting. The happy faces on the beach will make you want to join in on the fun. Soon enough your typical day may begin with a check of the wind, around which the rest of the day's activities will be planned, kiting being not so much a sport as it is a passion.



ANNA CZOLPINSKI PHOTO

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Information sessions for returning UVic students are being held:
Thursday, Sept. 15 at 2:30pm in CLEA D261
Friday, Sept. 16 at 10:30am in CLEA B315

Vikes soccer teams look forward to new season

by Rachel Reaugh & Sharon Hall

The UVic women's and men's soccer teams kick off the season on Sept. 16 and 18 against Trinity Western and University of British Columbia, both top-ranked teams in the Canada West region.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

HEAD COACH:
Tracy David (4th season)

2004 RECORD:
- 7-4-3
- Third in the regular season
- Lost playoff semi-final to Trinity Western University in overtime penalty kicks.

KEY RETURNEES:
Kate Hambleton (1st team Canada West All-star), Rachel Lovink(1st team Canada West All-star), Cheryl Bjorgan (2nd team West All-star), Sarah Cameron (Canada West Rookie of the Year) and Marlesa Manson (Defense, 5th year)

KEY NEWCOMERS:
Janelle Smith (Midfield, 1st year, Clarence Fulton Secondary, Vernon, B.C.)

COACH'S COMMENT:
Our team is older and more experienced going into this session, which is really good since the league this year is really tough—you can't discount teams like Calgary, Alberta and Manitoba. Everyone has a real chance at making the top four to qualify for the finals. We move into this session with one key injury to our starting centre back. Despite this set back we are optimistic about our strength as a team and our ability to pull together this session.

FIRST HOME GAME:
Friday, Sept. 22 @ 5:30 against the University of Alberta Pandas

MEN'S SOCCER

HEAD COACH:
Bruce Wilson (19th season), Canada West Coach of the Year 2004

2004 RECORD:
- 8-2-2
- Second place in regular season
- Won Canada West Championship and Canadian Inter-University Sport Championship.

KEY RETURNEES:
Will Moore (Midfielder, 2004 CIS All-Tournament Team), Kyle Finner (Midfield, 4th year)

KEY NEWCOMERS:
Peter Richmond (Striker, 1st year, Oak Bay High School, Victoria, B.C.)

COACH'S COMMENT:
We have 18 new players starting this year, so it's going to be a year dedicated to rebuilding the team. We have our first two games at Trinity Western followed by a game with the UBC Thunderbirds. These opening games will be tough for our team as both Trinity and UBC are top teams in Canada west.

FIRST HOME GAME:
Thursday, Sept. 22 @ 7:45 against the University of Alberta Golden Bears.

Come to the soccer kickoff BBQ!

Sept. 22, gates open at 5 p.m. Admission is free with a valid student card. Free burger, chips and ice cream to the first 350 fans—so get out there!

PROVIDED PHOTO

Last year's men's team won big—will they be able to do it again?

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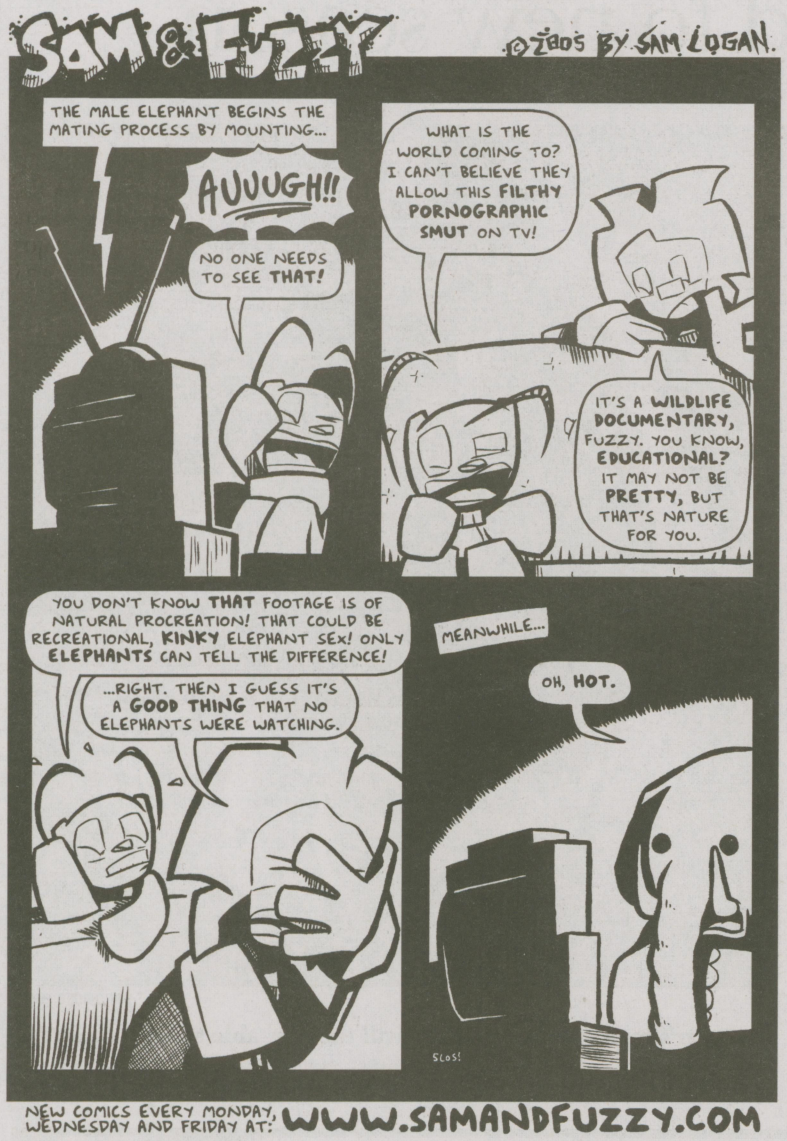

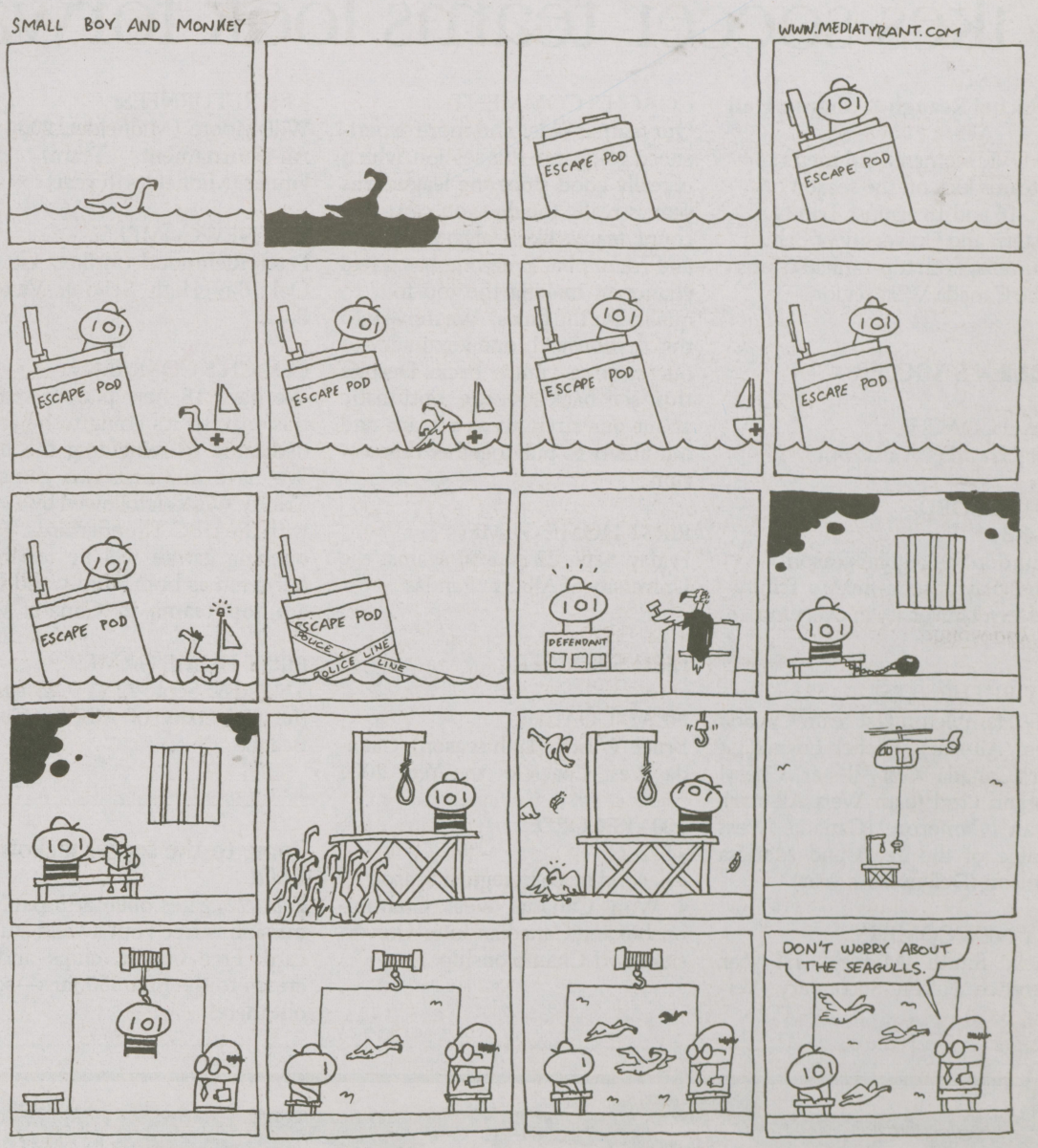

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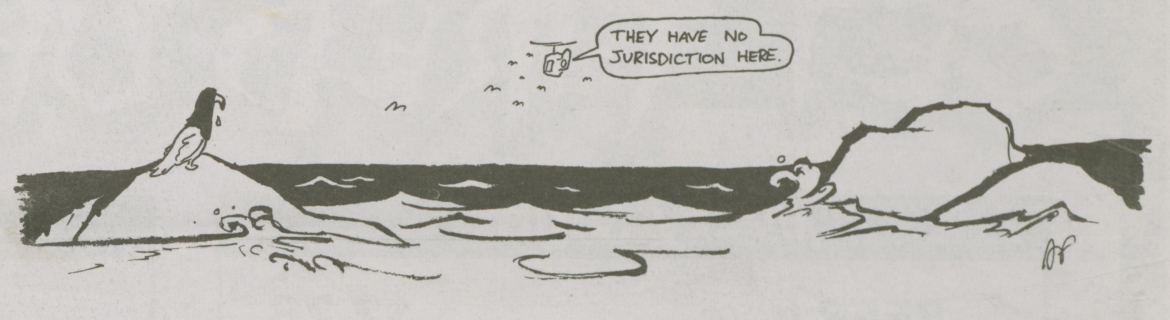

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VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Now accepting applications for the SART team at the Women's Sexual Assault Centre. Volunteers in this position provide support and information to survivors of sexual violence. Applicants must be able to commit to 3 shifts/month for one year and possess strong problem solving skills, be reliable, respectful and good communicators. Training begins September 27th. If you are interested, call for an application package: Beth Kope, Coordinator of Volunteers. Phone 383-5545
Email volunteers@vwsac.com

BE AN IN-SCHOOL MENTOR
Mentor a student in an elementary school 1 hour/week. Play games, sports, cook, read, do arts and crafts and other fun activities. Call Big Brothers Big Sisters at 475-1117 bonnie@bbbsvictoria.com.

Volunteers of all ages are needed to assist individuals with disabilities to get out and be active. By donating only 1-2 hours a week you have the opprotunity to participate in an activity you enjoy while giving back to your community! To get involved or for more information, please call Bryanna at 477-6314 or visit: www.rivonline.org/RIVSite.htm

Seize the moment - new skills, new friends, and new opportunities - Volunteer with us. NEED Crisis and Information Line. Training group starting Oct 1st.
386.6328 / www.needcrisis.bc.ca

Antimatter Underground Film Festival needs energetic and dependable volunteers to assist with screenings, special events and gallery installations. Phone 472-3948 or email volunteer@antimatter.ws

The BC Cancer Agency - Vancouver Island Centre is currently recruiting volunteers for Patient Support positions and for their busy TeaLC Café. Shifts are 3 and 4 hour, once a week. If you are interested in volunteering in this rewarding environment and are available to help out during a weekday, please contact Volunteer Services at 519-5500 ext 3747.

ON CAMPUS

Jung Society lecture: John Betts. Jungian Dream Interpretation. September 9, 2005. 7:30 pm, David Strong Building, C116. Members and full time students, $10; nonmembers, $15. Workshop next day off campus. Phone 370-6001.

Take the "ONE-TONNE CHALLANGE" and do your part to reduce greenhouse gas emissions! www.co2zilla.ca or www.www.climatechange.gc.ca For more info on how you can reduce greenhouse gasses affecting climate change, contact the University of Victoria Sustainability Project at 721-7355 or uvsp@uvic.ca

Chorale auditions & free voice coaching sessions by Connie Foss More for boys & girls aged 6-16 by Dec. 31 are being offered by VIVA Choirs on Sept. 1, 6, 7, 8, & 11 by appointment, in the U.Vic. area. Find out if you'd like to join the VIVA Boys Choir or one of the other girls or co-ed groups, beginner to advanced. Call 472-2655 or 658-3407, or check www.vivachoirs.ca for information.

FREE SPANISH LESSONS
Intermediate—Adavanced starts tuesday, Sept. 13, 7-9 p.m. Beginners start Wed., Sept 14, 7-9 p.m. and Sept. 16, 4-6 p.m. Until early to mid-December. Where? St. Saviour's Anglican Church, 310 Henry St. (3rd right off the Bay St. Bridge). 384-8773.

SERVICES/ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Got a song in your heart? Sign up for Victoria Idol this month and prepare for stardom. Forty amateur Vancouver Island singers of all ages will be selected for a series of playoffs leading to the big event Jan. 21 at Alix Goolden Hall. Grand prize: A studio-produced recording of the winning song – a $3000 value. The top 10 finalists in this fundraiser for PEERS Victoria will also perform on television. Big-name judges, great prizes, fun and a good cause to boot – what are you waiting for? Application forms and information on-line at www.VictoriaIdol.com, or by calling 388-5350. Deadline for entries: Oct. 5.

SIERRA CLUB NATURE OUTING! AMIDST CAMAS & BROOM at Beacon Hill Park on Sunday, September 11 at 10a.m. Both First Nations and European settlers possessed rich and ancient traditions of plant knowledge. Join ethnobotanist Joe Percival to explore this legacy and the plant world of Meegan (Coast Salish for Beacon Hill). Meet at the flagpole in Beacon Hill Park. $5 recommended donation. For more information visit www.sierraclub.ca/bc or call 386-5255 ext. 241.

Get your life back! ARTHRITIS SELF MANAGEMENT 6 week, 2 hour/week program at Gordon Head Rec. Centre, Oct 17 – Nov 21, 1:00-3:00. $25 includes manual. Spouse/caregiver $10. Registration: 475-7100.

The Punjab Unhiversity, CHANDI GARH (U.T.) INDIA has been designated by the Ministry of Advanced Education British Columbia. If you are interested to obtain education at the PUNJAB UNIVERSITY CHANDI GARH you can get a student loan from the B.C. Ministry of Advanced Education. For more information you can contact: mtatla@uvic.ca

"Introduction to Secular/Humanistic Judaism." Sunday, September 18th - October 9 - 7:00 - 9:00 pm The Victoria Society for Humanistic Judaism is presenting a four week course that will explore some of the history and philosophy of secular/humanistic Judaism, including a non-traditional celebration of the Jewish High Holidays. The course will be led by Sharon Kobrinsky, Ceremonial Leader, who will be joined by other members of VSHJ. Resource material will include: "Judaism Beyond God" by Rabbi Sherwin Wine and "God Optional Judaism" by Rabbi Judith Seid. For further information and registration, please contact Sharon Kobrinsky, 474-7173. Fee for nonmembers, $25. Everyone is welcome.

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1995 Pontiac Sunfire 2dr coupe, dark purple, 10 cd player. New brakes, head gasket, muffler, heater core. 147000kms. No rust. Great on gas. $3300. 250-661-2581, rsforbes@alumni.sfu.ca

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